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PUBLIC OPINION (New York) combined with THE LITERARY DIGEST

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NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 5, 1908

WHOLE NUMBER, 959

## TOPICS OF THE DAY

### BRINGING UP THE TARIFF ISSUE

AS every manufacturer and every employee, every producer and every consumer, has a direct or indirect interest in the tariff, and as many are predicting that business will not attain its former activity until the uncertainties of tariff revision are settled, next spring, the injection of the tariff issue into this campaign is regarded by many to be the most important event in it thus far. On the very day when Mr. Taft was attributing the panic of 1893 to the Democratic tariff, and the business revival of 1897 to the Republican tariff, in a speech at Hot Springs, Va., Mr. Bryan was making a speech on the tariff at Des Moines, Ia., which many think the best one he ever made. "We do not recall another speech of Mr. Bryan's of equal ability and grasp with this," declares the *Charlotte (N. C.) Observer* (Dem.). "It will take rank with the great tariff arguments of our times," adds this paper, "and is calculated to electrify the party and the country." "If the tariff issue continues to cut much of a figure in the campaign from this time forward, it will be because the Republicans are unable to suppress it," thinks the *Brooklyn Citizen* (Dem.), and it predicts that "the Democrats will certainly do their utmost to keep it prominently before the people," and believes that "the more success they have in fixing it as a controlling issue in the minds of the voters the larger their vote is likely to be." The *Indianapolis News* (Ind.) ventures the opinion that "this speech will do more to unite the Democrats than anything that has yet happened."

Mr. Bryan began his speech by saying that the Republican party can not be entrusted with the work of revising the tariff because it "is so deeply obligated to the highly protected interests," and he declared that "it is difficult to overestimate the corrupting influences introduced into the political life of the nation by this partnership between the Government and the favored industries."

After dwelling upon the Republican plea that the workingman and the farmer are benefited by the tariff, Mr. Bryan went on to show that the tariff-schedules are sometimes written by the manufacturers themselves, who then proceed to raise prices far beyond the point warranted by the new duties. He cited as follows the case of the Steel Trust to show how little the workingmen share in the tariff benefits:

"The protected manufacturers have secured, in many cases, a tariff of more than twice the percentage paid to workmen in wages. The net profits of the Steel Trust last year were just equal to the entire amount paid in wages, and the wages constituted less than 25 per cent. of the total value of the product. According to this statement each workingman employed by the Steel Trust earned, on an average, not only the amount paid to him, but 100 per cent. profit besides for his employer. And, I may add, while these

beneficiaries of protection have been pretending to make the tariff laws for the direct benefit of the employees, these same employees have, as a rule, been kept close to the hunger line, while many of the employers have become the possessors of the 'swollen fortunes' which now menace the nation's morals as well as its business."

Mr. Bryan declares himself to be in favor of a revenue tariff rather than a protective tariff, and says on this point:

"The Democratic party regards a tariff law as a revenue law, the protection it gives being incidental; the Republican party regards a tariff law as framed primarily for protection, the revenue being incidental. As the effect of a given rate on a particular article is the same whether levied for the purpose of revenue or for the purpose of protection, it may be well to define the difference between a revenue tariff and a protective tariff.

"A revenue tariff is so framed as to collect a revenue, and you stop when you get enough; a protective tariff may be so framed as to collect but little revenue, and yet lay a heavy burden upon the people—and you never know when to stop. To illustrate: A tariff may be made so high as to absolutely prohibit importation. If, in such a case, the manufacturers yield to the temptation mentioned by Mr. Taft and combine to take advantage of the duty, the consumers will be heavily taxed, and yet none of the money will reach the Treasury.

"Let us suppose another case: If we import one-tenth of a certain kind of merchandise and produce at home nine-tenths, and the imported and domestic articles sell at the same price, then the Treasury receives duty on the foreign article, and the manufacturers collect nine times as much on the domestic article as the Treasury collects on the one-tenth imported. It becomes a matter of great importance, therefore, to the people at large whether the tariff is intended to raise a revenue or is framed in the interest of the manufacturers and for the purpose of protection. No one would think of employing in a city, a county, or a State a tax system under which the bulk of the tax would go to the collectors; and yet the Republican leaders demand the continuance of a system under which the protected interests receive far more than half the money collected from the people through the operation of a high tariff.

"A revenue tariff will not bring a panic; it will not inaugurate industrial depression; it will not reduce wages; on the contrary, it will stimulate business and give more employment, and a larger demand for labor will be a guaranty against the reduction of wages. A reduction of the tariff will reduce the extortion that is now practised because of the high schedules; a reduction in price will enable more people to buy, and this larger demand for the goods will put more people to work and increase the number of industries. A lower price will greatly stimulate exportation, and manufacturers who are now crippled by a tariff upon what they use will be better prepared to enter the contest for supremacy in the world's trade.

"We can not hope to invade the foreign markets to the extent we should, until we relieve our manufacturers of the handicap that protection places upon them in the purchase of materials they

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have to use. Neither can we hope to continually increase our exports without increasing our imports. Trade must be mutual if it is to be permanent. President McKinley recognized this, and in the last speech that he made he pointed out that we must buy from other nations if we expect to sell to other nations.

"The Democratic plan does not contemplate an immediate change from one system to the other; it expressly declares that the change shall be gradual, and a gradual change is only possible where the country is satisfied with the results of each step taken.

"The whole aim of our party is to secure justice in taxation. We believe that each individual should contribute to the support of the Government in proportion to the benefits which he receives under the protection of the Government. We believe that a revenue tariff, approached gradually, according to the plan laid down in our platform, will equalize the burdens of taxation, and that the addition of an income tax will make taxation still more equitable. If the Republican party is to have the support of those who find a pecuniary profit in the exercise of the taxing power, as a private asset in their business, we ought to have the support of that large majority of the people who produce the nation's wealth in time of peace, protect the nation's flag in time of war, and ask for nothing from the Government but even-handed justice."

The *Atlanta Constitution* (Dem.) thinks the Republicans are insincere in their declarations for tariff revision or they would have lowered some of the duties shown to be unjust at the last session of Congress; and the *Louisville Courier-Journal* (Dem.) says:

"The objection that the people can not entrust the completion of this work of revising the tariff to the Republican party is based upon the most solid grounds. Pressure is brought to bear on the favored industries at every Presidential election, and to a subordinate degree every two years at the Congressional elections, to compel contributions, not merely for what has been done for them, but in the expectation of other favors to come. There is no reason

to suppose that the present campaign will be any exception. Indeed, the pledge that the work of tariff revision is to be made later on next spring may well put the highly protected interests on their mettle to make sure that they will be taken care of in the usual way. The candidate of the Republican party for President has already bidden for their support by saying that there are some duties that ought to be raised. As Mr. Bryan truly says, it must be interesting to be told what duties these are."

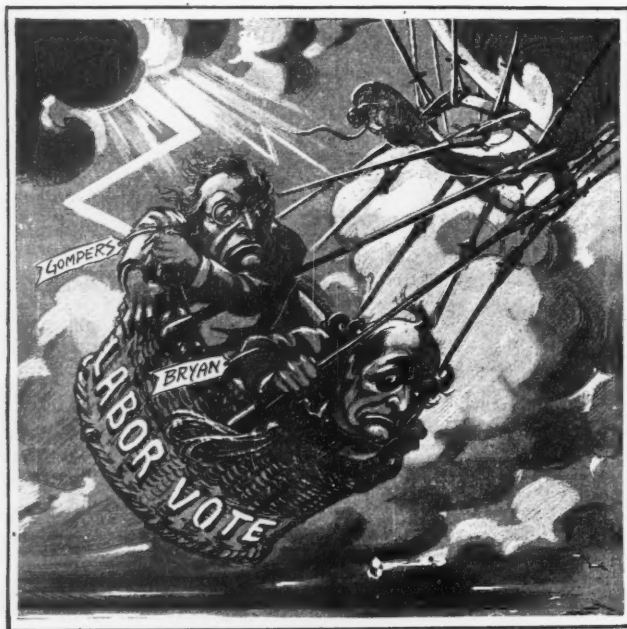
It is not necessary to quote the Republican papers to present the other side of the case. Sufficient opposition can be found among the very journals that agree with Mr. Bryan's tariff sentiments. The *Indianapolis Star* (Ind.), which declares that if the tariff were the issue, Indiana would go Democratic this year, notes sadly in this speech "that peculiar crookedness of thought and expression which makes it so im-

possible for thoughtful persons to consider him seriously as Presidential timber." Another advocate of tariff reform, the *Hartford Times* (Ind.), believes Mr. Bryan has only taken up this issue to win votes; and the *Brooklyn Eagle* (Ind. Dem.) adds that, even if he is sincere, he would be hampered and balked at Washington by a hostile Senate, as Mr. Taft would not be. Mr. Bryan himself, and not the tariff, is the issue in this campaign, remarks the *New York Evening Post* (Ind.), and while it likes his speech, it does not like him. And so thinks the *New York Times* (Ind. Dem.). Says the *Providence Journal* (Ind.):

"There is nothing in Mr. Bryan's speech to indicate that he has more than a superficial knowledge of the tariff question. Indeed, it is he who, more than any other man, has drawn the attention of the Democratic party away from the question. Mr. Cleveland was the leader who forced the issue of revision; and had he been loyally supported the Wilson bill would not have been a monument of 'perfidy and dishonor.' Mr. Bryan now attempts to lead the



MR. BRYAN AND THE TRICK DONKEY PRESENTED BY THE MINNESOTA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.



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DID THEY THINK IT WAS A DIRIGIBLE?

—Kepler in *Puck*.

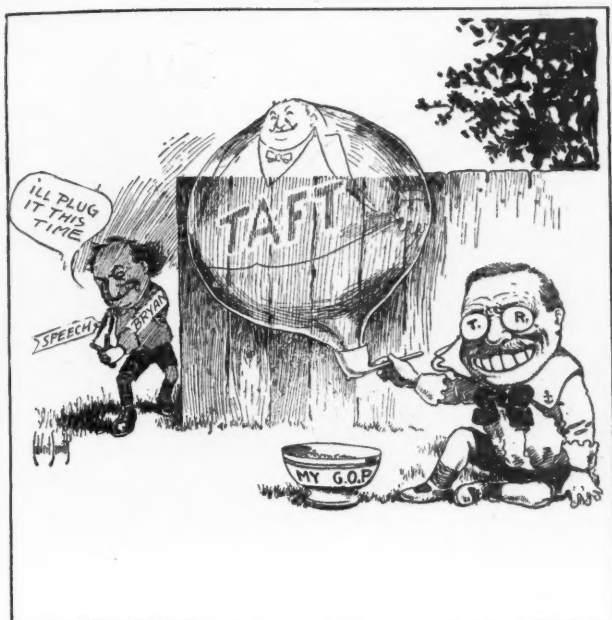


BRYAN—"Have you 'Winning of the West'?"  
LIBRARIAN—"No. The only copy is out, and I don't think it will be back for a couple of months."

—Thorndike in the *Baltimore American*.

WRONG CALCULATIONS.





THE BUBBLE.  
—Smith in the Jacksonville Times-Union.



WORRIED.  
—Cunningham in the Washington Herald.

#### THINGS COMING HIS WAY.

party back to the position it occupied in 1892; but the policies for which he has compelled it to stand sponsor have made that position impossible. Unsatisfactory as the Republican position is, tariff-reformers may well hesitate long before they vote for Mr. Bryan. His ideas, as exprest at Des Moines, are sound enough so far as they go; but there is no note of authority in his utterances. The tariff will be revised some day, and by other men than those who now seem destined to undertake the task. The object of the reformers must be to get a Congress no longer dominated by Mr. Cannon and Senator Aldrich—a Congress, whether Republican or Democratic, which would set about the business of revision with an honest desire to lessen the burden of taxation upon the people."

A Republican view may be seen in this paragraph from the New York *Tribune's* correspondent at Hot Springs with Mr. Taft:

"With the Republican party committed to early tariff revision and the candidate pledged to call the necessary special session of Congress immediately after he is inaugurated, the Democrats have only methods to discuss, and any attempt they may make to convince the voters that their party is competent to revise the schedules will recall 'the Wilson-Gorman hybrid' which the Democracy enacted on the one occasion when it was entrusted with this responsible undertaking; when, in fact, it had been returned to power solely because of its promise to conduct an intelligent and consistent revision of the schedules. So badly did the party then perform its duty that its own President, Mr. Cleveland, refused to sign the measure for which Messrs. Wilson and Gorman were responsible, and so disastrous to the country were its consequences that never since have the people been willing to entrust the Democracy with any important duty. Under these circumstances, it is believed that Mr. Bryan may make tariff speeches galore without result."

#### GUARANTEEING BANK DEPOSITS

WHILE some of the Republican papers are treating Mr. Bryan's plan for government guaranty of bank deposits as a mere mental vagary that gives additional evidence that his mind is unbalanced, the seriousness and importance of this issue are shown by the fact that in Oklahoma, where the State banks are under a guaranty law, and the national banks are not, four national banks have become State banks, and sixteen more have applied for State charters. In Kansas the Republicans have inserted a plank in their State platform indorsing this idea upheld by Mr.

Bryan and denounced by Mr. Taft, and it is reported that in Kansas City three-fourths of the banks are in favor of the scheme. These facts were strongly dwelt upon by Mr. Bryan last week in his speech at Topeka. He said in part:

"The United States Government requires the deposit of specific security when it entrusts money to a national bank, altho it can examine the bank at any time; the State requires security when it deposits money in a bank; the county requires security and the city requires security; even the banks require security from the officials who handle money. Why should the depositor be left to take his chances?"

"A bank asks deposits on the theory that the depositor is sure of the return of his money, and the laws ought to make the facts conform to the theory. The depositor, the community, and the banker himself will be benefited by legislation which will give to every depositor the assurance that that which is committed to the keeping of the bank will be available to meet his needs at any time. . . . ."

"There are only 20,000 banks, while there are 15,000,000 depositors, and I do not hesitate to declare that in a conflict between the two the depositors have a prior claim to consideration. If we estimate the average number of stockholders of each bank at 75—and that is a liberal estimate—the total number of stockholders would only be 1,500,000, or one-tenth as many as there are depositors. The stockholder is not compelled to buy stock, while the depositor is compelled to use the banks, both for his own sake and for the sake of the community, for only by using the banks can he keep his money a part of the circulating medium. The guaranty law, therefore, brings the greatest good to the greatest number, as well as to those who have the greater equity upon their side."

Mr. Taft stated his position on this question on Wednesday of last week as follows:

"The fundamental objection to the proposed plan to guarantee deposits in national banks is that it puts a premium on reckless banking and is an inducement to reckless banking. Relieved of the responsibility to and the fear of the depositors, the tendency would be to induce exploitation, manipulation, and the use of assets of banks in a speculative way. It would promote speculation at the expense of fellow bankers, and that ultimately means at the expense of the depositors."

Mr. Bryan's scheme would "put a premium on speculation and dishonesty" by making the sound banks suffer for the rascality of the wildcat institutions, declares the *Philadelphia Ledger* (Ind.); and the *Cleveland Leader* (Rep.) agrees that it would "force sound



JUST TUNING UP.

Be patient. Before long you will find them all in harmony.  
—Bradley in the *Chicago Daily News*.



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BUT HE KNOWS BETTER.

Some of Bryan's Eastern friends are urging him to attack President Roosevelt to bring conservative Democrats to his support.  
—News dispatch.

—Davenport in the *New York Evening Mail*.

#### THE DOMINATING FIGURE OF THE CAMPAIGN.

and well-conducted banks to pay for the mistakes and crimes of men unfit to control such institutions." The *Kansas City Journal* (Rep.), the *Baltimore American* (Rep.), the *Rochester Post Express* (Rep.), the *New York Commercial* (Com.), *Evening Post* (Ind.), *Tribune* (Rep.), *Times* (Ind.), and many other papers take the same stand, and the *New York World* (Dem.), which is supporting Mr. Bryan, declines to follow him on this issue, and says he is "seriously mistaken."

The *Denver Republican* (Rep.), published in the region where this idea is rife, combats it by this analogy:

"Suppose a law should be passed compelling every farmer to go security for every other farmer in the United States, every prosperous farmer guaranteeing that every shiftless farmer would meet his notes at the bank, pay his bills at the store, and make good the losses in his speculations! Would there not be a vigorous protest from every honest man to whom the law might apply?"

"At once a law of that kind would be recognized as foolish in the extreme as well as unjust. No sane man would seriously propose an enactment of that kind. It would be nothing less than confiscation to take the property of one man to pay the debts of another against his will."

"What would so promptly be recognized as foolish and oppressive if applied to farmers, is precisely what Mr. Bryan proposes to apply to banks."

"His proposition to guarantee the deposits in national banks is nothing more or less than a scheme to make every bank go security for every other bank; and he does not disguise the fact that he hopes to capture votes by this device, because the number of depositors in the banks is greater than the number of bankers."

"Possibly, if the storekeepers and others selling goods to farmers had a right to vote on the question of making the farmers responsible for one another's debts, a good many votes would be secured from such creditors. We doubt, however, if any such absurd law would receive the indorsement of a majority even of the storekeepers. They would have too much common sense to advocate anything of that kind."

"Mr. Bryan is seeking votes for his proposition to make the banks responsible for one another's debts, but there is not the slightest difference between the proposition we have suggested by way of illustration and the one he has made in all seriousness; and we do not believe his scheme will be indorsed by the sober-minded, common-sense American people."

When we come to examine the character of those who indorse

the guarantee idea, however, we find no less weighty a financial organ than the *New York Journal of Commerce* (Fin.) ranged on this side of the question. And the *Springfield Republican* (Ind.), one of the staunchest organs of New-England conservatism, recalls that the Fowler Currency Bill contained a deposit-guarantee provision, which was indorsed by ex-Secretary Gage, Horace White, and other like authorities. The idea "is neither startling nor revolutionary," says *The Republican*, and it presents its merits thus:

"The chief point to be made on behalf of a government guaranty of deposits is that it would bring all the banks under a given government control into a common interest on behalf of safe banking and observance by all of the Government's restrictive laws. It is called a government guaranty of deposits. It should rather be called a joint bank insurance of deposits under government supervision and enforcement. The Government does not provide the insurance fund; it is provided by the banks, and every bank in the system thereby becomes concerned in the safe and conservative conduct of every other bank. Instead of as now standing off and bidding the Government enforce its restrictions as best it may, they each become an interested agent in assisting the public supervision on behalf of general banking security. Accordingly when it is urged that this plan would place a high premium on wild-cat banking, the fact is to be considered that on the contrary it enlists every decent and conservative bank in the service of assisting the Government in suppressing such banking."

*The Journal of Commerce* takes Mr. Taft to task as follows:

"It is greatly to be wished that Mr. Taft, as a candidate for the Presidency, would direct the undoubted powers of his mind to an independent study of financial questions that are presented to him and form his own judgment, instead of repeating stale second-hand statements, which on careful examination he would find to be without force. The question of the guaranty of bank deposits has been forced to the front to an extent that is rather out of proportion to its immediate importance, but it is liable to become an important matter for consideration, and it is well to have clear ideas about it. Mr. Taft had previously expressed some hasty conclusions on the subject, but in response to a direct request for his opinion he is reported as 'dictating' a somewhat formal statement. . . ."

"This [statement] indicates a superficial view of the subject if by 'the proposed system' is meant a really rational plan. The plan proposed in the Fowler Currency Bill, for instance, would be a feature of the organization of national banks in redemption dis-



tracts with boards of management representing the banks and a system of examination, supervision, and control which would diminish, and not increase, the chance of insolvency. One of the purposes would be to prevent 'reckless banking,' and the check upon the use of assets 'in a speculative way' would be much more effective than it has proved to be under the present law in several conspicuous instances, like that of the Walsh banks in Illinois.

"Under a properly regulated system the 'tendency toward exploitation, manipulation,' etc., would be restrained. It is apt to be overlooked that the guaranty would apply only to deposits of banks after they have failed, and the responsibility for solvency would not, certainly need not, be diminished, and there could be no resort to the guaranty fund until the assets, which stockholders as well as depositors are interested in conserving, had been exhausted. With a rationally devised system this notion that bankruptcy would be encouraged is a mere bugbear, and Mr. Taft is a man of sufficient penetration not to be fooled by it if he would only devote some serious study to a subject which is of growing importance and which he may be called upon to have a well-considered opinion about."

### AN ENVOY OF GOOD-WILL

"IT was the good fortune of the late Baron von Sternburg to contribute powerfully to the restoration of good relations between the United States and Germany," says the *Boston Transcript* in an editorial on the recent death of the German Ambassador to the United States, thus emphasizing the Ambassador's peculiar constructive diplomacy which has almost entirely healed certain unpleasantnesses which cropped up between the United States and Germany during the Spanish-war period. It is this phase of the German Ambassador's work which the press is convinced will long keep him in the memory of diplomatic affairs. "No foreign representative lately in Washington has earned there a larger share of admiration and respect," declares the *New York Times*; and the *Washington Post* is especially impressed with his "complete appreciation of American manners and affairs." The *New York Tribune*, which commends the Baron's "rationality and broad-minded diplomacy," says further:

"Baron von Sternburg belonged to the newer school of diplomats. He sympathized with the idea that an ambassador can do the best service for his country by winning the good-will and interest of the people among whom he lives as an envoy. He was a frank admirer of what is best and most helpful in American life, and he mingled freely with Americans, speaking and writing without what was once considered necessary diplomatic reserve. He showed tact in what he said and did, and he gave the ambassadorship a larger significance than it had formerly possessed. The United States and Germany have both profited by this change of method, and both can profit further by following the modern, open-spoken method of diplomacy."

The *Philadelphia Press*, agreeing with the *Boston Transcript* in its belief that Baron von Sternburg "typified rather the German combination of the man of action with the man of thought than the mailed-fist tradition," continues thus:

"Baron von Sternburg came to this country at a difficult period. The Spanish war had left serious prejudice against German policy among a large part of the American public. The tactless acts of some of his predecessors and the irresponsible utterances of news-

papers in Germany had not diminished this feeling, which, while never more than superficial, had its effect on the public mind. Not even Prince Henry's visit wholly removed it.

"Previous service in this country had given Baron von Sternburg opportunities to make a most favorable impression on a wide circle of acquaintance. As Ambassador, his tact, his appreciation of American conditions, and his frank assertion of German friendliness for this country deepened this early impression. Abandoning a narrow diplomatic view of his duties, he appeared in magazines, in weeklies, and in newspaper interviews. He spoke freely in public. He visited many places in this country with a freedom unusual in the German service.

"All this had its effect and has made Germany better understood in this country. It has removed prejudices which ought never to have existed and which never had a foundation in fact. It has aided the general appreciation of the fact that the German Emperor and his Government have frankly accepted the friendship and policy of the United States in the Western world, recognized its leadership, and have no desire to interfere with its interpretation of its duties or their discharge."



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BARON VON STERNBURG.

### THE EXONERATION OF JEROME

NOBODY seems to be very greatly surprised or grieved at the exoneration of District-Attorney Jerome, of New York, except the two newspapers that have been demanding his decapitation. The *Baltimore News* believes the verdict "is not unexpected by those who have followed the case," and it thinks that "there is no reason to doubt either the honesty or capacity of Jerome." The *Brooklyn Standard Union*, similarly, says his vindication "is but the rightful due of an honest and competent official," and the *New York Evening Post* declares it has always believed in him, and adds that although "positive proof" of his corruption has been assured many times, "the proof we asked has never been forthcoming." In the present verdict, remarks the *New York Sun*, "not a trace remains of the whole preposterous, miserable, tiresome fabric of malice, mercenary interest, and yellow sensationalism; while we get about as fine a portrait as was ever drawn in history or fiction of an honest

man and a public servant of rare ability and energy and single purpose in the public service."

The verdict in favor of the New York District-Attorney is rendered by Special Commissioner Richard L. Hand, appointed by Governor Hughes to take testimony and report his findings. The charges against the District-Attorney were inspired by the large number of irregularities in high finance in New York City that have gone unpunished in the past few years. All the wrongs in life insurance laid bare by Governor Hughes, in the investigation that made him famous, failed to land in jail any of the great magnates who were popularly held responsible, and the huge trickery of the New York City Street-Railway deals have left the wreckers free from any touch of the criminal law. This failure to provide Sing Sing with a group of high financiers was laid at the door of the District-Attorney, who alleged in reply that all these transactions were so cleverly planned as to be just out of reach of the statutes. This contention is upheld by Commissioner Hand, who says:

"My conviction upon the whole case is that the respondent has

been shown to have discharged the onerous duties of his office with zeal and ability, having the public good as his motive, and that no incapacity, indifference, or neglect of duty has been shown in any case."

The Commissioner also makes these scathing reflections upon the "committee" that were the District-Attorney's accusers:

"What information this committee may claim to have as to the conduct of the District-Attorney, upon whom they have assumed to make these serious charges of improper motive, abject veneration of mere money and the possessors of money, neglect of duty, official misconduct, conspiring with criminals, throttling prosecutions, and defeating justice, we can only infer from the fact that its chairman and secretary concede their utter ignorance and seem to have signed such charges as the counsel saw fit to prepare without real knowledge even of the content of such charges, and in absolute ignorance as to their truth or falsehood, and the counsel himself is forced to admit that he had no greater knowledge or information than they."

The whole trouble, the Commissioner thinks, was caused by the very qualities in Mr. Jerome's make-up that made him a popular idol. He was swept into office over the heads of all the bosses, big and little, on the expectation that he would do the impossible. We read:

"It seems probable to me that the temperamental qualities of Mr. Jerome have tended to bring upon him this situation in some degree. A certain self-confidence and contempt of the opinion of the other men, a certain rashness of expression to the verge of recklessness, a certain delight in the exercise of his acuteness of mind and vigor of expression, and a certain impatience of criticism have combined, I think, to make men far more eager to attack him than they would otherwise have been."

"But these qualities of mind are not a just occasion for such charges as have been presented here, and have no real materiality in this investigation, while the fact remains that with the publicity of his life, the frankness, not to say imprudence, of his self-expression were perfectly familiar to the people of the County of New York, and were a large part of that in him which commanded their admiration and confidence. Certainly, in no ignorance as to them, but fully cognizant thereof, their choice of him for another term in the important position of District-Attorney in that county furnishes the most emphatic and conclusive evidence that these were not regarded as sufficient reason for at all modifying their desire that he should be their prosecuting officer for four years more. . . .

"The unreasonable expectation of the crowd has been impossible of gratification, and therefore, as is too common to excite surprise in any student of human nature, many who shouted loudest for Mr. Jerome are now full of bitterness toward him, because he has not done what they desired and imagined he would be able to do. With this feeling no regard is had for what he has done; no appreciation of the difficulties of doing. But the one thing occupying their minds has been that all which they have desired and hoped for has not been accomplished, and Mr. Jerome meets with the common fate of an idol of the people."

The Commissioner's report is still to be approved by the Governor, and *The World* and *American*, the two papers that have been demanding Mr. Jerome's head, are telling the Governor that if he signs this report absolving the District-Attorney from blame for letting the insurance magnates go free, he will thereby admit that his great insurance investigation really disclosed no criminality and amounted to nothing. The fact that the investigation resulted in putting a new chapter of insurance laws on the statute-books, forbidding the practises that former laws could not reach, is not mentioned in these editorials. *The World*, after enumerating a long list of crooked financial deals and recalling that "the great criminals of high finance have not been menaced," and "crimes that shocked the world are yet unpunished," continues:

"To say in these circumstances that Mr. Jerome has done his work with 'zeal and ability'—that what has been done is all that can be done—is to say that New York can jail its Tillinghasts, indict its Gillettes, and apologetically annoy its Perkinses with feeble proceedings; but that when in the ascending scale of guilt

its Ryans, its Rogerses, and its Harrimans are reached, they dwell in that lofty atmosphere of 'the higher law,' where poor man's justice does not run. It is to insult the courts, by assuming that they can only punish petty crime. It is to say that we must ignore the demand of the whole civilized world that the gigantic crimes of craft and cunning unveiled in the community should be visited with retribution. It is to give notice to the West and South that money invested in New York County lies at the mercy of thieves. It is to undermine faith in the sacred trust of life insurance. It is to warn men of evil mind that the way to steal and go unpunished is to steal in millions. It is to charge that in a few feverish years of swift decadence we have sloughed off all the legal safeguards slowly won through centuries of civilization and have gone back to cave-man's law—the right of the sharpest tooth, the fiercest spirit, the greediest maw, and the heaviest club. . . .

"The people look to Governor Hughes as the court of last resort. They look to him to demonstrate that New York is not bound and defenseless against its most dangerous enemies."

## MORE SPEED AT PANAMA

"THE marriage of oceans and the divorce of continents" De Lesseps dreamed of years ago now seems to be proceeding at Panama at a rate calculated to cheer the worst pessimist. The report on the progress of the Panama-Canal construction, by the special commission which the President appointed last spring, has met with wide commendation from the press and with characteristic comment and enthusiasm from the President. "The report is no mere perfunctory official glaze or whitewash," declares the *Philadelphia Ledger*, while the President, hailing the results in some of his happiest superlatives, finds the success of the work "literally astounding."

The basis of this commendation, in brief, emphasizes the following facts: The elimination of yellow fever on the Isthmus, not a case having been reported in two years; the construction of comfortable and sanitary quarters; the digging of two and a third millions of cubic yards of dirt per month during the winter months that represent the dry season in Panama, and the organization of the skilled and unskilled laborers so as to obtain the best results. The report also recommends some additional improvements, including a more generous treatment for injured workers and their families, the appointment of a labor secretary, and a readjustment of wage-schedules.

Mr. Roosevelt's letter to the commissioners reviews the report thus:

"I doubt if there is any piece of work undertaken on behalf of the American people of recent years of which the American people have more reason to be proud than of the work hitherto done on the Panama Canal. The success has literally been astounding. Five years ago, when we undertook the task, no sane man would have dared to hope for the results which have already been achieved. The work itself has been advanced more expeditiously than we had ventured to think possible, and the rapidity of the rate of progress has steadily increased. Meanwhile, the treatment of hygienic conditions on the Isthmus has been such as to make it literally the model for all work of the kind in tropical countries. Five years ago the Isthmus of Panama was a byword for unhealthiness of the most deadly kind. At present the Canal Zone is one of the healthiest places on the globe, and the work which is being prosecuted with such tremendous energy is being prosecuted under conditions so favorable to the health and well-being of the workers that the mortality among the workers is abnormally small."

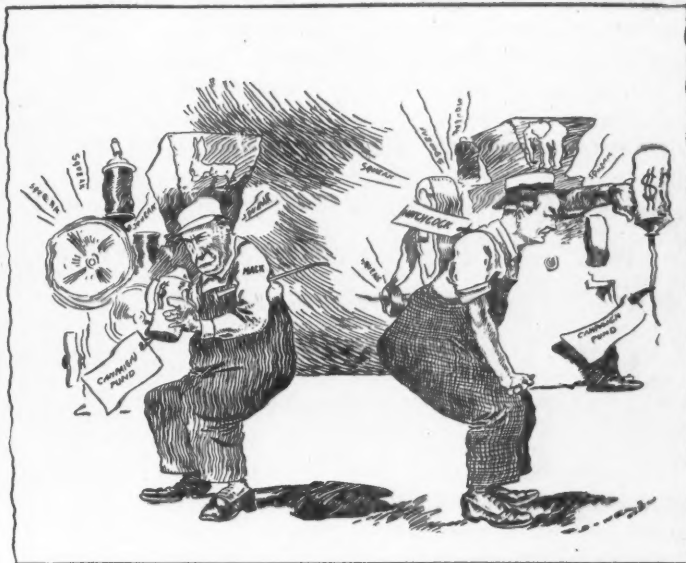
"Finally, in addition to the extreme efficiency of the work under Colonel Goethals and his associates and the extraordinary hygienic success achieved under Dr. Gorgas, there is the further and exceedingly gratifying fact that on the Isthmus the United States Government has been able to show itself a model employer. There are matters to correct, of course, as your report shows, but, on the whole, it is true that the United States Government is looking after the welfare, health, and comfort of those working for it as no other Government has ever done in work of like character."





HARDSHIPS OF THE POLITICAL PURE-FOOD CAMPAIGN.

It's going to take so long to make the necessary analysis.  
—Bradley in the *Chicago Daily News*.



A SLIGHT SCARCITY OF OIL.

—Bowers in the *Indianapolis News*.

### "WHEN GIVERS PROVE UNKIND."

The *New York Tribune*, which lays particular stress upon the "economy at Panama," estimates from the late reports that American engineers have in four years excavated more than 80 per cent. as much as the French had in all their years of labor; that the Americans have in one year excavated nearly 50 per cent. as much as the French had in nearly twenty years; that the rate of American achievement is constantly increasing, and that at the end of last May the work of digging the canal was more than half done. To quote further:

"It might not unreasonably be assumed that this enormous acceleration of work was being effected by means of a comparable increase of expenditure, which might be proper and commendable. If, for example, the rate of excavation could be doubled by doubling the expenditure, that would be good policy, for the final cost of the work would not be increased, while we should have the use of the canal so much the sooner.

"But our engineers are doing much better than that. Thus in August, 1907, they excavated 1,272,827 cubic yards, and in June, 1908, 3,060,307 cubic yards. That was an increase of more than 140 per cent. But the cost did not increase in like ratio. On the contrary, it increased from \$1,196,803 to only \$1,755,771, or less than 47 per cent. The cost of construction and engineering in August, 1907, was 94 cents for each cubic yard excavated, and in August, 1908, with the rate of excavation considerably more than doubled, it was only 57 cents for each cubic yard.

"With the work of excavation now more than half done, it will be of interest to recapitulate the itemized cost of the great enterprise thus far, or, rather, down to June 30 last, when the digging was more than half done. Since our entry upon the undertaking, in the spring of 1904, the largest item of expense has naturally been the plant account, for buildings, machinery, etc., and that aggregated down to June 30 \$31,099,309.04. Second, and a close second, was the item of construction and engineering, which was \$30,104,095.27. The work of sanitation in the canal zone and the two adjacent or perhaps included cities was \$6,925,910.77. Municipal improvements in the same area cost \$1,770,750.87. Finally, by far the least of all, was the bill for civil administration, amounting to only \$2,146,996.77. Thus the grand total of expense—excepting the purchase price paid to the French company and the royalty to Panama—down to June 30 last was only \$76,047,062.72, or less than \$19,000,000 a year. In view of such a showing, the predictions of extravagance, profligacy, and plunder which were once so freely made, are happily disappointed, and our administration of the enterprise is seen to be marked with as much financial economy as technical energy."

The Democratic press, while not as demonstrative in its enthusiasm over the Canal Commissioners' report, is, nevertheless, willing

to give credit where credit is due. "Nothing our Government has attempted has been more creditably done than this, no work has been approached more intelligently," is the comment of the *New Orleans Times-Democrat*; and the *Louisville Courier-Journal* believes that the conditions are "certainly encouraging." The *Hartford Times*, however, discovering an African in the woodpile, declares the Canal Commissioners' report to be "merely the President's regular contribution to the campaign literature of the Republican party. Something of the kind," it adds, "may be expected at least once a day until the votes have been cast in November."

### CADETS RESCUED BY THE DICTIONARY

THE minds of the great men at the head of our Government have been occupied for the last few weeks over the precise relation between hazing and the compulsory collection of red ants, and our newspaper editors have taken a profound interest in the problem. The result has been the President's approval of the dismissal of two of the West-Point hazers and the suspension for one year of the other six, and while this has finally closed what at one time threatened to be a serious entanglement, the press continue to comment upon it. Some of the papers are still incensed that a lexicographer should have rescued the cadets from the extreme discipline of instant dismissal as laid down by Congress, Secretary Wright's argument being that the recent pranks did not come under the dictionary definition of hazing; but others hail the Secretary of War's recourse to the dictionary as a "stroke of genius" and a commendable way out of a difficult situation.

The confusion which marked the early reports of the dismissal of the cadets from the Academy arose through conflicting statements from President Roosevelt, Colonel Scott, superintendent of West Point, and Secretary of War Wright as to the finality of the preliminary order. The President in transmitting the reports to Secretary Wright sent a letter saying he had approved the report *pro forma*, but that he wished to talk the case over with the Secretary before the order was promulgated. Secretary Wright assumed from this that the matter was not finally settled, and thus the general confusion ensued. Later developments appear to have uncovered the belief on the part of the President and Secretary Wright that the punishment of dismissal was unnecessarily severe,

while Colonel Scott insisted that severe correction was necessary if the discipline of the Academy was to be maintained.

The point upon which the controversy finally hung was the meaning of the word "hazing" as implied in the dismissal act of Congress. Secretary Wright, in his report to the President, argues that a "clear distinction should be drawn between the offenders belonging to the first and third classes," giving consideration to the younger members, and then discusses the situation thus:

"The act of Congress that forbids hazing and directs regulations to be made by the authorities of the Academy does not prescribe what hazing is. This is not a technical term, and we can only ascertain the meaning of the word by reference to the standard dictionaries. Webster's International Dictionary defines hazing: 'To harass or annoy by playing abusive or shameful tricks upon; to humiliate by practical jokes; used especially of college students; as, the sophomores hazed a freshman.'"

"None of the acts shown to have been committed by these young men comes within this definition of hazing," declares the Secretary of War, in which opinion the President seems to agree.

The *New York Tribune* describes in a general way the pranks which led up to the hazing charges. We read:

"One of the things the luckless 'plebes' had to do was to gather ants. If they did not fall in at the first roll of drums in the morning, instead of at 'assembly,' five minutes later, which was all the rules required, the penalty was imposed by the hazers on each of the 'plebes' of collecting one hundred ants in the company streets. If the full number was returned, the victim was told to put them away in his locker until further orders, but if the total was short he was ordered to collect fifty more, or to run back and forth a certain distance until told to stop. Another form of hazing was to make a 'plebe' hold his toes against the underside of the table while he ate. 'Bracing,' 'knuckling,' 'fagging,' cleaning rooms, and darning socks were also forms of hazing which it was shown were enforced."

The *New York World*, which views the final settlement of the West-Point imbroglio with decided disfavor, declares that it is but "further evidence of the demoralizing effect of executive disregard of the law."

On the other hand, the *New Orleans Times-Democrat*, discussing the situation more at length, is of the opinion that a modification of the present statute against hazing is needed, declaring that the law now gives the War Secretary no discretion, recognizes no degrees of the offense, and makes mandatory the expulsion of any student convicted under it. It says further:

"That hazing of the brutal and vicious type should be punished by immediate expulsion there can be no question. Some of the practises disclosed by the official investigation months ago can not be defended upon any ground. Young men who indulge them confess their unfitness for any command over men. But the attempt to rigorously repress the natural mischievous bent and high spirit of the average healthy American boy by punishing harmless pranks with the same severity prescribed for rank cruelty and inhumanity will strike the average man as harsh and ill-judged. The

proposed amendment of the hazing law, giving the authorities some discretion in assessing the penalties, would probably prove beneficial and prevent a recurrence of the awkward situation in which the President, Secretary Wright, and Mr. Loeb have been placed by the recent hazing episode."

## A BOY POLICE FORCE

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa, has discovered a new and simple way of dealing with unruly and mischievous boys, without the services of a modern juvenile court. According to the *New York Tribune* one of the most novel law-and-order forces in the country has recently been tried out in this Iowa city. The institution is known locally as the "kid police force," and so popular has the movement become that practically every boy in town has put in his application for membership. Juvenile crime has almost entirely disappeared, and the "young-man" criminal class finds no recruits to the depleted ranks. The captain and originator of the force is George H. Richmond, chief of the city police force. He is said to have based his working plans on the almost universal desire the average boy has to be a "copper." The *Tribune* explains the genesis of the boy policeman as follows:

"The 'kid' police force was organized among street Arabs, news-boys, bootblacks, and boys who would naturally be expected to oppose just such a movement. Four years ago Chief Richmond was arranging a schedule of his men for the Fourth of July. Already the boys were beginning to shoot off giant crackers. The chief had ordered that any boy caught setting off fireworks before the hour which ushered in the Fourth should be arrested.

"A policeman entered, half dragging, half leading a dirty-faced little fellow, who was wiping his eyes on his sleeve.

"'Caught the kid shooting a giant cracker. Here's the cracker itself as evidence,' said the policeman.

"'All right. Put the kid over in that chair,' said the chief.

"Chief Richmond is a friend of boys and understands them.

"'Jimmie,' he said, 'what do you say to helping me make the "gang" behave themselves to-morrow? I need a good boy, and I believe you are the very one I want.'

"'Not me,' answered Jimmie. 'I ain't goin' to tell on none o' me pals.'

"'No, I don't want you to tell on your pals, my son,' said the chief. 'I'll make you a regular policeman, and you can arrest any boy just like a regular policeman can.'

"'And kin I have a star?'

"'Yes, I'll give you a badge,' answered Richmond.

"'All right, I'm wid yer,' and 'Jimmie' was there and then made a special, and started out to keep the other boys from shooting off crackers."

The "kid" force is changed completely for the different occasions upon which it is used. In this way, the writer points out, the chief gives every boy a chance to become a policeman, and the heaviest disgrace that can come to a Council-Bluffs boy is for one who has been a member of the force to be arrested.

## TOPICS IN BRIEF

CRUDE and inferior air-ships are on the market. Wait.—*Minneapolis Journal*.

POLITICAL rainbows need the proverbial bag of gold at each end.—*Atlanta Constitution*.

IN case of further depression in Minneapolis flour-circles the baking-powder men should not hesitate to tender their assistance.—*Chicago Tribune*.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT is to meet with what is called the American Fisheries Society. Is this another name for the Ananias Club?—*Atlanta Journal*.

PROMISES to carry the South for the Republican ticket next fall resemble a doughnut with the circumference about the center removed.—*Atlanta Constitution*.

CARRIE NATION's statement that she would not stop at a hotel with a bar to it is the first real argument we have seen against prohibition.—*Atlanta Georgian*.

WHY were twelve hot-air balloons released as a delicate compliment to the Hon. James Schoolcraft Sherman when he had uttered the last sentence of his speech of acceptance?—*New York Sun*.

ABDUL HAMID may have his troubles, but when he reads of the doings of our Senatorial candidates he can thank his lucky stars that he never got mixed up in Wisconsin politics.—*Milwaukee Sentinel*.

## CORRECTION.

In our table of August 22, page 237, giving the Presidential vote by States, the space under 1884 for Pennsylvania should have been black, and readers who are preserving this table should change it accordingly. We invite the closest criticism of this diagram and will be pleased to receive information if any other error is discovered. The corrected diagram will be printed on linen, and copies may be obtained at 15 cents each.



## WILBUR WRIGHT'S CONQUEST OF FRANCE

WHILE the French have so far claimed and indeed maintained a supremacy in the production of the aeroplane, as distinguished from the dirigible balloon, it seems as if their laurels were to be snatched by a young American from Ohio. Such is the opinion of the most eminent French and Italian experts who witnessed the experiments recently made in France by this new aspirant to aeronautic honors.

The success of the new American aeroplane invented and made by the Wright brothers and tried at Le Mans has been widely recognized by the European press. The very personal appearance of Wilbur Wright is described with interest, and *The Evening Standard* and *St. James's Gazette* remarks:

"Wilbur Wright is the man of the moment. He looks like a bird. A very tall, very thin, long-armed, long-fingered, sun- and wind-burned man, he is almost lost in his gray suit of clothes. His eyes are startlingly blue, and his nose is a beak. He is thin-lipped, and when he talks (which is seldom) or thinks (which is usual) he has a way of folding his wings (or his long bony hands) over his knee, leaning forward, and giving little pecks at the empty air in front of him. He is bald, with the exception of a little bird-like fringe of feathery hair round the base of the skull. And when you see him you realize that if any man could teach himself to fly he was the man to do it."

The French aviators at Le Mans, according to the *Manchester Guardian*, confess "We are beaten," and Mr. Delagrangé, who, as an expert aviator, exhibited the Voisin machines in Milan and Rome, declared "I am literally disconcerted by what I have seen. The Wright apparatus is the simplest and most surprising thing of the kind it is possible to imagine."

The *Figaro* (Paris) is equally enthusiastic and exclaims in English "All right! Wright wins!" Frantz-Reichel concludes his article in this paper as follows:

"No words can give an idea of the emotion I experienced, of the impression I received, on witnessing that last trip through the air, made with masterly ease and incomparable elegance of motion. I do not know, I do not even believe, that we are on the eve of seeing the establishment of a company of aerial taximeters. But of this I am very certain, namely, that we have now seen a vehicle which is to a certain extent master of the air, and which comprises in itself all the elements of what may soon become a practical means of aerial transportation."

The correspondent of the *Tribuna* (Rome) exclaims:

"It is unheard of, marvelous, unique. I have seen Farman, I have seen Bleriot, I have seen Delagrangé. These are all children compared to the American aviator, who is their master, their great and incontestable master. They are still in the rudiments.

He has passed his tests as a pilot of the aeroplane. Moreover, his machine is a thousand times superior to anything as yet produced in France."

More hesitating is the faint acknowledgment of the *London Times*, which apparently has no belief in the future practicability of aeronautics, and, after reviewing the problem editorially and declaring that the exploits of "Mr. Farman in America" and "Mr. Wilbur Wright in France" show that they are "very capable inventors," thinks that they have merely proved "that flying by means of an aerostat heavier than the atmosphere is not a mechanical impossibility." The writer adds:

"Their achievement, so far, is almost limited to establishing that proposition. At considerable expense, and after long and costly labor, a combination of planes and motors is put together which can make a sprint through the air without—invariably—upsetting. Its balance is so delicate, and its manipulation requires so much skill and nicety of hand, eye, and judgment, that the inventors have, as yet, wisely declined to soar high or to travel far. They are content to skim rather close to the earth for a mile or two. . . .

"But the whole science is still in a very embryonic stage. When we have a dirigible or an aeroplane which can ascend in any weather, come down anywhere, stay aloft for a day or two at a stretch, and carry something besides itself, its motors, its ballast, and its navigators, we may begin to think the problem of practical aviation is approaching its solution."

This goal has by no means been reached as yet, says *The Saturday Review* (London), and, speaking of "Mr. Wilbur Wright's achievement at Le Mans," this paper credits him with proving "the possibility of aerial navigation over three or

four miles of country," but concludes that "aerial navigation is still both ways *en l'air*, i.e., *in nubibus*," and adds:

"Last week Herr Zeppelin failed dramatically in the very moment of success. This week we have had not only Mr. Wilbur Wright's achievements at Le Mans, where he has experimented with his aeroplane, and has at least demonstrated the possibility of aerial navigation over three or four miles of country, but Mr. Farman's efforts with a similar machine, and Captain Baldwin's with a dirigible balloon in America. That a machine capable of sustained flight will some day be constructed may be accepted as one of the certainties. At present accident upsets the calculations of the most scientific. Herr Zeppelin is not the only victim of unpremeditated chance. Mr. Wright's wings have been injured by the merest accident and rendered useless for days to come, and Captain Baldwin has failed to carry out his program in consequence of various 'accidents' which are described as petty."

The German papers are still so full of Zeppelin that they have no space excepting for the most meager accounts, without editorial comments, of the experiments made at Le Mans.—*Translations made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

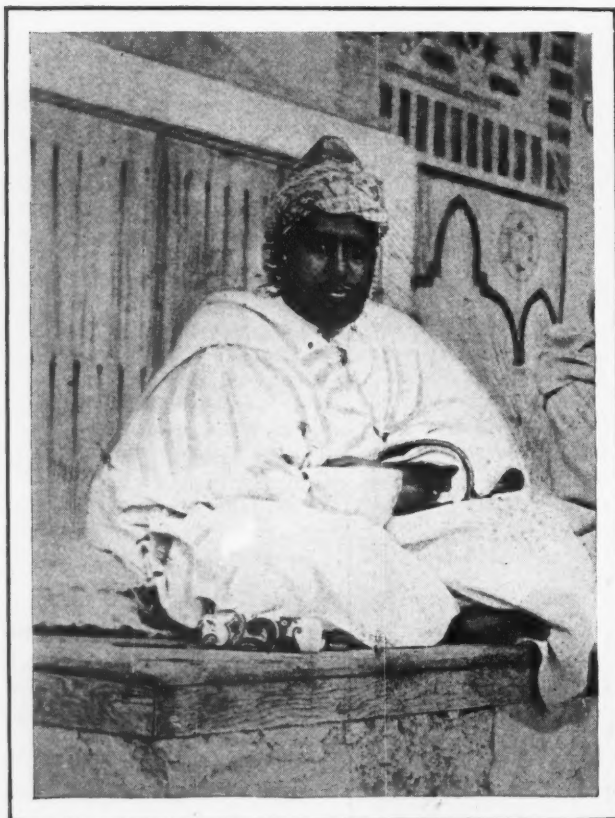


WILBUR WRIGHT IN HIS AIR-SHIP.

The other aeroplane experimenters are "all children compared with this American aviator, who is their master, their great and incontestable master," says a writer who has seen all of them.

## THE NEW SULTAN OF MOROCCO

THE defeat of Abdul Aziz by his brother Mulai Hafid has brought a serious complication into the Morocco problem. Such at least is intimated by the European press. When brothers fight, they fight to the death, and the recent battle in Northwest Africa has resulted in the projected banishment of Abdul Aziz to the rose-gardens of Damascus, while his stronger and more virile successor has mounted the throne at Fez. But according to some editors the conflict between the two Sultans (for Mulai Hafid, even before his decisive victory, has been known as "Sultan of



Photograph from Underwood & Underwood, New York.

MULAI HAFID.

It was his dabbling in photography and other modern whims that started the disaffection against Abdul Aziz; and Mulai Hafid is so fearful of the same fate that this photograph was jealously kept secret more than a year. A newspaper correspondent, however, obtained a copy of it from a diplomat, and now it is at large for his foes to do their worst with.

the South") was really considered a struggle between France and Germany in Africa.

Germany is suspected of supplying the most modern weapons of precision to the usurper's army, and we are told that French officers actually directed the movements of the army which bore the standard of Abdul Aziz. The great obstacle in the way of tranquillity is of course the Algeiras Convention, which provides that the new police is to be officered by French and Spaniards. Abdul Aziz signed the Convention, but it is feared by some publicists that the high-spirited and triumphant Mulai Hafid may refuse to do so. The German press deprecate all anxiety on this point and think that Mulai Hafid will fall in line with the arrangement made at Algeiras by the Powers. To the proposal that a second conference should be held the *Taegliche Rundschau* (Berlin) replies:

"What would be the advantage of this? Germany has frequently declared that the question does not depend on the personality of the individuals concerned. Any Sultan who exercises power with the approval of the Moroccans and follows out the provisions of the Algeiras Convention will be acceptable to Germany. Why should not Mulai Hafid do so?"

The Austrian press, however, seem to hint that Germany really has not the authority to decide the question, which must be a matter of a European consensus. Thus we read in the *Neues Wiener Tageblatt*:

"It is not to be disputed that the recognition of a Sultan as supreme in Morocco is not to be relegated to the decision of any individual Power. All those governments whose delegates signed the Algeiras Convention must act in concert."

The Paris *Temps* thinks the success of Mulai Hafid is a German triumph, but hints that the trouble is not over yet. It remarks:

"The Germans doubtless will rejoice over the victory of their friend Mulai Hafid, and for the moment they seem to have good cause for rejoicing, altho they can not be pleased to see that the occupation of Casablanca by the French must necessarily be prolonged. There can be no doubt that order would at once have been reestablished if the battle had gone the other way, for then France would no longer have any pretext for keeping her troops in Moroccan territory. At the present moment anarchy has returned; conflicts between the tribes who espouse the cause of Hafid and those who remain faithful to Aziz still go on, and it is impossible to say when France will be able, consistently with her engagements with the Powers, to evacuate Morocco."—*Translations made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

## HOW THE PACIFIC CRUISE IMPRESSES THE BRITISH

INSTEAD of exhibiting jealousy over the enthusiastic welcome given by the British colonies of the Pacific to the fleet of the lost thirteen colonies, and with no hint of fear that they may be led to follow our example and ask for independence, the British press rejoice rather with Australia and New Zealand in the thought that here is a fleet that will help insure white supremacy in the Pacific. The success of the cruise as a naval achievement, the beauty and efficiency of the ships, the discipline of the men, and the ability of the officers awaken the admiration of the British editors. The welcome accorded to the squadron is thus dwelt upon by the *London Times*:

"New Zealand's welcome to the United States fleet has ended, to their mutual regret. From beginning to end it was an unqualified success. The final scenes were tinged with sadness, for the visitors with their hearty, breezy, and humorous manner have endeared themselves to the New-Zealanders in a remarkable degree. A mutual feeling of warm friendship has been the predominating note, and the visitors are as loth to go."

The political significance of this flood of feeling is thus dwelt upon by *The Daily Mail* (London):

"All this enthusiasm is to the good. The colonies are keenly interested in the question of the mastery of the Pacific, which some day will have to be settled, and as the Premier of New Zealand said the other day, the navy of a Power which has interests practically identical with our own ought to be received with hearty warmth. It is only the necessity for concentrating our naval strength in home waters which prevents the British Navy from taking a prominent part in the celebrations of welcome."

And in *The Standard* (London) we read:

"These tokens of amity are the natural expression of the friendly relations existing between the British and American peoples. Australia and New Zealand, too, share with the United States a direct interest in the Pacific, the field of many conflicting claims, which, so far, have been happily adjusted. The United States and Great Britain, by reason of the geographical position of their respective territories in the Pacific, must always exercise a considerable influence upon the future of that vast oceanic region, with its thousand islands and immense coast-line. . . .

"The United States, whose Navy is second in power to our own, have awakened to a consciousness of hitherto unsuspected possibilities involved in the employment of their ships in time of peace. It is the visible expression of a power which is declared to be on



the side of peace and justice; and it is perhaps the recognition of this aspect of naval affairs which has aroused the enthusiasm of the American nation."

The same paper adds that "Admiral Sperry's deep-sea voyage affords an excellent test of machinery and organization, and he is to be congratulated upon the success of the experiment." On this point the London *Spectator* enlarges as follows:

"The prompt arrival of the United States fleet at Auckland, in accordance with its program, must have convinced all onlookers, if the fact had not already dawned on them, that the rumors of grave defects in the ships when they started on their long journey were quite unfounded. So far from being in an indifferent condition, the fleet is proved by results to consist of fine seagoing and sea-keeping ships. We may add that a naval authority, whose opinion we can trust implicitly, has told us that the American ships are thoroughly well designed and well built, and that any nation might be proud of them. It is not enough, however, that the ships should be good in themselves for the performance of such a feat as the American battle-ship fleet is undertaking; the officers must be good too. The record of the cruise so far as it has gone proves that the officers deserve to command their ships. And let us understand that the test is really severe. Small squadrons of ships of various nations have, of course, circumnavigated the world, but this is the first time that a fleet of sixteen battle-ships has set out to do it."

*The Daily Chronicle* (London) looks upon the visit to Australasia by American ships as not only likely to result in the fresh cementing of ties between the white races, but as implying a demonstration against Oriental immigration. To quote the words of this organ:

"The motto of all the speeches in New Zealand has been 'Blood is thicker than water.' The sense of kinship between peoples which have all sprung from the old stock is no doubt one element in the case. This sense is quickened also by political sympathies and commercial relations. Next to the United Kingdom, the United States is the country which does most trade with Australia; and it comes third in the list in the case of New Zealand. Australasian democracy feels sympathy, moreover, with American; and the social experiments of Australia and New Zealand have attracted much attention in the United States, where some of the best books on the subject have been written. Behind, and possibly above, all this is the feeling that on a matter of policy upon which Australia and New Zealand entertain a deep and passionate conviction, their view, their interests, their determination are identical with those of the United States. The popular rejoicings of which we have spoken are primarily and sincerely a demonstration of friend-

ship for the United States. They are also, in the background, a demonstration against Oriental immigration into 'White Men's lands.'"

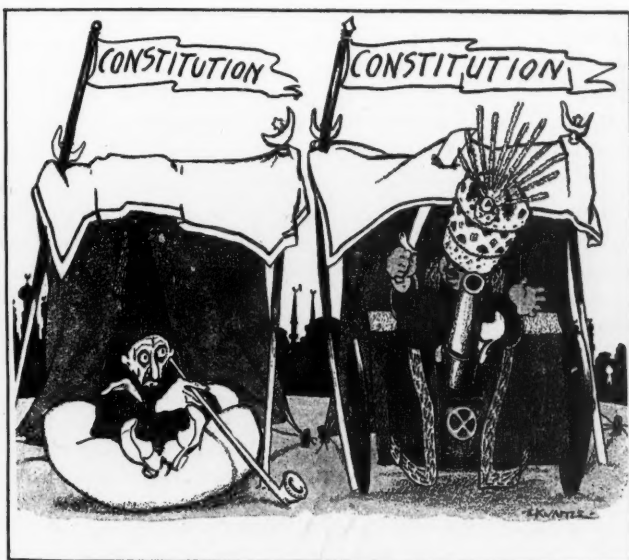
## PERSIA'S ROBESPIERRE

THE savage barbarism of the Shah in bombarding his Parliament-house has been made the text for many a harangue by the friends and admirers of the Constitutional party at Teheran. Yet that party is led and inspired by a man fully as barbarous and bloodthirsty as the King of kings. Zilli Sultan, according to E. J. Dillon, the famous traveler and foreign correspondent, who writes in *The Contemporary Review* (London), is merely a self-seeking hypocrite, whatever we may think of his political talents. Thus we read:

"As for the brain of the revolutionary movement, Zilli Sultan, one may admire his rare gifts of organization, insight, and perseverance, but one should not ignore his aims, his interests, or those infallible manifestations of his character which have been recorded by local annalists, but seem to be forgotten by the foreign friends of Persian freedom. And to imagine that such an unprincipled claimant to the throne of absolutism is capable of moving a finger to promote the cause of Constitutionalism in the country which his father governed despotically for nearly a generation, is to look for figs from thorns. A tyrant by temperament, he is pliant and soft-spoken by policy, only because he realizes that he can catch more flies with a drop of honey than with a whole jar of vinegar."

Dr. Dillon emphasizes his statement that Persia has little to hope for from such a reformer, by relating an incident in Zilli Sultan's career "which characterizes this prime mover of the 'revolution,'" and "goes to show that in some respects the Persia of Darius's time is the Persia of the twentieth century A.D." The incident was as follows: When Zilli Sultan was Governor-General of a certain province, a capacity in which he "displayed qualities and vices which disclosed the born administrator, the Oriental despot, and the human beast," a merchant whom he had oppressed complained to the Shah, who ordered Zilli Sultan to make amends. The sequel is as follows:

"Then Zilli Sultan sent for the man and asked, 'Did you complain of me to his Majesty the King of kings?' 'I did presume to write a petition to his Majesty,' was the reply. 'You had the heart to do so, had you?' 'I—I—' 'Yes, I know. Well, now, I should like to have a look at that brave heart that ventured to beat against the Governor-General, Prince Zilli Sultan. I'm



SULTAN—"Do you know, dear neighbor, that since I followed your example things have become hotter than ever?"

SHAH—"Tut, tut, honored colleague, try some of Krupp's coolers."  
—Ulk (Berlin).



ANGELS OF THE NEW ERA.

Why should people speak slightly of parliamentary government when three such noble champions as these have come to its support?  
—Fischietto (Turin).

"SHALL THE PEOPLE RULE?"

in a hurry to see it.' The merchant's face turned white, and, as the Persians put it, the world grew dark in his eyes as he was taken from the presence at a sign from the despot. In less than three minutes, say the chronicles, the executioner brought the heart of the merchant for Zilli Sultan to gaze upon. And the Governor-General and prince is now the leader . . . of the popular movement in Persia!"

## ALLIANCES AS PROVOCATIVE OF WAR

ENGLISH Prime Ministers in after-dinner speeches as well as on other occasions are often fond of uttering an epigram or a paradox. Mr. Balfour is a philosopher and very often has spoken and still speaks in language as dark and puzzling as that of Heraclitus. Beaconsfield loved a phrase which half involved a contradiction. And now Mr. Asquith has made an utterance over which the German editors are tormenting their brains. In a speech delivered at the dinner of the recent "Universal Peace Congress at London," which was attended by seven hundred delegates of all nations, the Premier is reported to have remarked, "Alliances are sometimes hindrances rather than helps to peace, but nothing can interrupt the harmony that exists between the English and German governments."

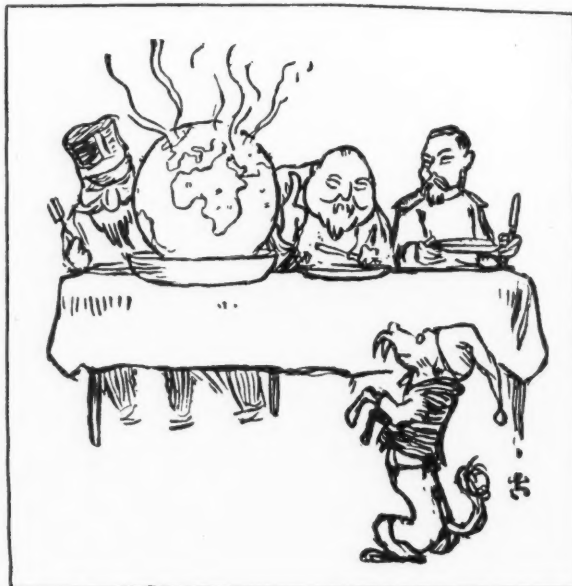
The semiofficial *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* (Berlin), while agreeing with the first clause of this remark, is careful to limit its application to the *entente* between France and England in their relations with Germany, for this paper immediately proceeds to extol the Triple Alliance as the bulwark of peace in Central Europe. It continues:

"It is highly gratifying to find the British Prime Minister so plainly enunciating a principle that is applicable to all States, but the practical application of which has unfortunately been so often misunderstood in England. . . . In course of time these plain declarations on the part of leading British statesmen may exercise a calming influence on public opinion on the other shore of the North Sea."

Yet this paper does not feel quite sure that the *entente* between France and England is not to be developed into a military com-

clear (and this we aver in the face of all contradictory affirmations) that such an alliance is to be directed against no other nation than Germany."

The radical *Berliner Tageblatt*, after discussing the probability of such a military convention, adds that its effect would be to destroy the balance of power in Europe which King Edward, in his recent interview with the Emperor Francis Joseph, exprest



HOW THEY LIKE MICHEL TO BEHAVE.

EDWARD—"My son, you grieve me by your greed;  
Now, self-restraint is what you need,  
That self-restraint which ne'er complains,  
But feels delight o'er other's gains.  
Be moderate, don't look so gruff,  
He who wants nothing has enough."

—*Jugend* (Munich).

his unwillingness to interrupt, because such interruption would mean war.

The very opposite point of view to that of the *Norddeutsche Zeitung* is taken by the *Germania* (Berlin), the great clerical organ, which remarks:

"These words of the English Premier, spoken at the Peace Congress, ought to be strongly underlined in connection with the long-continued foreign policy of the Island Kingdom. We in Germany have been accustomed to think quite otherwise with regard to the significance of alliances. Whenever England has secured a new friend it was heard in Wilhelmstrasse with joy, and the impression prevailed that a new guaranty for the peace of the world had been obtained."

The writer goes on to say that in any case England's alliances are not made for purposes of war, but for obtaining supremacy in the commercial world. Mr. Asquith's saying is to be taken merely as a brilliant paradox, intended to cut both ways, to please Germany by scouting at the *entente* and to please the English haters of Germany by persuading them that the whole policy of England is directed against the aggrandizement of Germany. To quote further:

"We have no hesitation in declaring, in spite of the insinuations of Mr. Asquith, that England's alliances are not made with any warlike intentions. We entirely dissent from the view that relations between England and her allies on the one side and Germany on the other can ever end in a menace of conflict. What England is aiming at, and what she is so far successful in attaining, is not the physical defeat of Germany, but the balking of her plans and the damaging of her commercial interests. . . . The assurance of peaceful intentions made so frequently by the British Cabinet is not to be undervalued. We have great pleasure in expressing our conviction that England does not desire war with Germany."—*Translations made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*



ENCIRCLING GERMANY.

THE NEW TRIPLICE—"That's it. Now we will make him come off his high horse."  
—*Nebelspalter* (Zurich).

pact directed against Germany, and on this point it speaks as follows:

"It is incontrovertible that there exists in England as well as in France a tendency toward favoring the conclusion of a formal military convention between the two governments. It is equally



## THE UNGATHERED HARVEST OF THE SEA

THIS name is applied by John L. Cowan to the great mass of edible seaweed that annually grows, perishes, and decays in the waters of the ocean. It has been predicted recently by Prof. Bonnycastle Dale that this will one day be used in large part as food for the human race, and Mr. Cowan, in an article contributed to *The Technical World Magazine* (Chicago, September), concludes that this prophecy is a reasonable one. He writes:

"That the hint will, sooner or later, be acted upon by some enterprising manufacturer is not at all improbable; so that it is within the bounds of reasonable expectation that we shall some day see 'Shredded Seaweeds,' 'Faked Fucus,' 'Desiccated Dulse,' 'Predigested Sargassum,' 'Puffed Nereocystis,' 'Malto-Kelp,' 'Cream of Sea Moss,' and a score of other marine substitutes for

them out to dry in the sun. Then they are taken to local factories, where they are boiled, shredded, and prepared for use as food. A cleaner and more wholesome article of diet can not be imagined, and travelers who have tried it pronounce it to be both palatable and digestible. There is no reason why it should not take the place of some of the common foods in general use. As a base for cheap candies, preserves, jellies, custards, and similar products requiring a cheap but harmless 'filler,' it is infinitely superior to the materials commonly used. Yet millions of tons of this potentially valuable food are wasted on American shores every year; and throughout the world the waste is so enormous as to be beyond computation. Emerson Hough predicts that the time is coming when the farmers of America will save their potato-parings, to plant them for seed. When potatoes become so valuable, or farmers so unscientific, as to make that necessary, it will be time to abandon potato culture and to give some attention to the harvesting of the crops of the seas."

The birds' nests used for soup by the Chinese and considered



DEVIL'S APRON—A COMMON BROWN SEAWEED.

A NEGLECTED SOURCE OF FOOD SUPPLY.

COMMON VARIETIES OF RED SEA MOSS.

"On the sea-beaches of the United States enough proteids are cast up by the waves, and allowed to decay and desiccate into their original elements, to take the place of the whole product of the Northwestern wheat-fields."

hot cakes and maple sirup, done up in one-pound packages, 'guaranteed under the Pure Food laws,' and crammed down the throats of a long-suffering and surfeited people.

"It is just ten years since Sir William Crookes, president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, presented his alarming array of statistics proving to his own satisfaction at least that by the year 1928 the entire population of the globe would be face to face with starvation, or, at best, with short rations, for the reason that the production of wheat could not possibly keep pace with the progressive increase in the world's population. Sir William failed to take into consideration the neglected and ungathered harvest of the seas. In the great Sargasso Sea alone, in the North Atlantic Ocean, sufficient nutritious vegetation flourishes and decays to support the entire population of Europe, if it were harvested and prepared in a manner fitting it for human consumption. On the sea-beaches of the United States enough proteids are cast up by the waves, and allowed to decay and desiccate into their original elements, to take the place of the whole product of the Northwestern wheat-fields. If the world's teeming millions ever face wholesale hunger, it will not be on account of any niggardliness on the part of nature, or any short-sightedness of Providence, but because mankind lack the wit to utilize the food-materials that exist in superabundance.

"Of course there is nothing at all new in the idea of eating seaweeds. They have been eaten and enjoyed for centuries, and in parts of the Orient are a staple article of diet—the literal 'staff of life.' Many varieties are largely composed of gelatin, and these have been eaten for ages by the Chinese, Japanese, and the inhabitants of many islands in the Pacific Ocean. Thousands of Japanese coast-dwellers gather a sufficient quantity of seaweed in July, August, and September to last them until the next season's harvest. The people go out to the marine harvest-fields in rowboats, equipped with long poles, to the end of each of which a stout hook is attached. With these queer implements of husbandry they tear the seaweeds loose from the submerged rocks, then take them ashore, and spread

one of their great national delicacies, are made of a gelatinous seaweed used by a swallow-like bird of the East Indies for nest-building. Several varieties of seaweed, known as dulse, are used as food in Scotland and Ireland; and not long ago five thousand barrels of a seaweed known as Irish moss were shipped annually from Massachusetts to New York and Philadelphia, for use in the manufacture of blanc-mange and other delicacies. The writer goes on:

"It is evident, then, that the proposal to exploit seaweeds as a food-material on a large scale is far from ridiculous. Seaweeds have always been used for food, and doubtless always will be. The one amazing circumstance is that the enormous supplies of clean, cheap, and wholesome nutriment are not made use of to a greater extent, particularly in view of the wide-spread discontent on account of the high and increasing cost of living. It is hardly conceivable that the economic waste represented by the neglect of the marine forests and gardens will be much longer continued. The only vegetation that exists upon two-thirds of the superficial area of the earth is seaweed. This vegetation ought to contribute to the support of the population of the land surface of the globe to such an extent that the question of food supply—the nightmare of scientific inquirers into the probable future of civilization and of the human race—need worry no one.

"The most important office of seaweeds is, of course, to make animal life possible in the ocean. But for algæ—a term that includes all plants that live in water, whether salt or fresh, and that derive their nutriment directly from the water, and not from the soil through the agency of roots—there could be no animal life in the seas, lakes, ponds, creeks, and rivers. Algæ serve the same purpose in water that the ordinary forms of vegetation serve on land—that of rendering it habitable. They take the elements existing in water as impurities, and manufacture them into materials essential to animal life. Plants feed upon mineral substances,

transforming them into organic matter, such as starch, albumen, and sugar, which form part of their own structure. The plants of the sea are the sole means of subsistence of multitudes of fishes and other marine animals; and those that do not live entirely or at all upon algæ must prey upon smaller or weaker creatures that do."

## PAPER FROM COTTON-STALKS

A RECENTLY invented system for reducing cotton-stalks to a suitable form for the manufacture of paper is described in *Farm and Ranch* (Dallas, Tex., August 15). According to this paper most of the difficulties which have hitherto prevented the accomplishment of this task appear now to have been solved. Says the writer:

"For many years experts have been engaged in devising some method for producing in a satisfactory manner paper from cotton-stalks. With the new invention, it is claimed, farmers in the South will have great use for the discarded cotton-stalks, which have hitherto been either thrown away or burned. It has been demonstrated that by the new process the heretofore waste product can be made into pulp and paper of a good commercial quality."



COTTON-STALK READY FOR MACERATION, REDUCED TO PULP FIBER, AND FLATTENED OUT TO BE MADE INTO PAPER. (Philadelphia Commercial Museum.)

"It is contended that the fiber in the stalk and limb of the cotton-plant is considerably stronger than spruce-wood fiber, and that it is almost as strong as the fiber of the flax-plant, thus making it possible to produce from cotton-stalks a paper superior in strength and texture to that of ordinary wood-pulp paper, and nearly as strong as high-grade linen paper."

"The stalks would cost little, the removal of the stalks from the plantation being of great advantage

to the cotton-grower, who must spend a good sum every year in the removal of the stalks from the ground. With the raw material at hand, and at a low price, a new industry can be established which will add many thousands of dollars to the products of the cotton-plant."

"It is argued that in regions where the cotton-boll weevil has ruined the crop of marketable cotton, the cotton-stalk can be utilized in the making of paper, as it would help to destroy the pest, while wasting none of the reclaimable material. Heretofore the plants have been burned to destroy the weevil, but by this method the whole plant is used, the leaves and unopened bolls passing through the mill so that there is no necessity for picking over the stalks."

Comparing the cost of production of cotton-stalk paper over that of straw paper, the writer finds that there is a difference of \$4.10 in favor of the cotton-stalks. It is estimated that cotton-stalk paper costs \$14 a ton, straw paper \$18.35, while ground wood as stock for paper manufacture costs from \$18 to \$20 a ton, and bleached sulfite costs from \$50 to \$60 for the domestic and considerably more for foreign stock. According to these figures the cost of the finished cotton-stalk paper is less than the price per ton of the cheapest grade of ground wood pulp. Moreover:

"The cotton-stalk paper can be made on any regular paper-machine, which demonstrates beyond question the feasibility of

using the stalks in the manufacture of all grades of paper, from the light flimsy qualities to those of the heavy, coarse wrapping grades."

"It has been estimated by experts that the supply of wood fiber for the making of paper will last but a few years more, and experiments have been and are being carried on every day for a substitute for wood pulp."

"With the cotton-stalks at hand, the paper manufacturer should investigate this matter thoroughly so that when his supply of wood fibre becomes exhausted he can turn to a substitute which is at hand."

"From a compilation of statistics regarding the best fibers for paper-making, it has developed that cotton-stalks make the finest paper for book-work, and that paper so made is more lasting and durable than paper made from any other material."

## TEMPERATURE OF THE MOON

IT seems to have been generally agreed by astronomers that the temperature of the moon's surface is very low. A writer in the *Revue des Questions Scientifiques* (Louvain, Belgium, July 20) notes, however, that some of the most recent investigations point to a different conclusion. He says:

"Efforts to show the existence of heat in the rays of the moon were long unsuccessful. The radiation of our satellite, concentrated by mirrors and lenses on the most sensitive thermometers, has no effect whatever. . . . When Ampère in 1835 announced his conclusion that light-rays were only visible heat-rays, Forbes offered the objection that no thermal effects had been observed in the lunar rays. Melloni, in 1846, was the first to obtain clearly marked results, which he did by substituting for ordinary thermometers the thermo-electric pile, which he had himself perfected. . . ."

"At present the devices at our disposal, including Langley's bolometer, invented in 1881, the radiometer of Crookes, and Boys's radiomicrometer, enable us very easily to show that our satellite gives off heat, but its measurement is still difficult and the different results announced have been disputed. . . . According to Lord Rosse the heat of the full moon is  $\frac{1}{80000}$  that of the sun, while Hutchins gives the amount as  $\frac{1}{183000}$ ."

"But even supposing this constant determined, it is very hard to deduce from it the temperature of the lunar surface. The heat-radiation of the moon is partly reflection of the sun's radiation and partly emission from the moon itself. According as we assert the predominance of one or the other, the temperature of the moon may be estimated as very low or as relatively high. Which shall we choose? . . ."

"The idea of a very cold moon seems to be confirmed by the bolometric experiments of Langley, who discovered in the lunar radiation a notable quantity of waves longer than those of a block of ice. He estimated the temperature of the lunar night at  $-235^{\circ}$  [ $-391^{\circ}$  F.]. The greater part of the radiated lunar heat would thus come from the reflected solar rays. This is also the conclusion arrived at by W. W. Coblentz in a recent investigation. From a study of the distribution of energy in the lunar spectrum as compared with that of reflected light from several common ores, he concludes . . . that our satellite behaves much less like a hot body than like a surface endowed with specular reflection."

"Coblentz finds confirmation of his theory in the following fact, observed during lunar eclipses: during such an eclipse, the heat radiated by the moon diminishes at the same rate as the light that it receives from the sun. . . . It would seem, therefore, that its surface does not store up solar heat—that it is not a warm body, but only a reflector."

"On the other hand, Frank Very has been carrying on a valuable study of the lunar surface which forces him to conclude that the moon has a temperature approaching  $100^{\circ}$  [ $212^{\circ}$  F.]. According to him the energy curve of the lunar radiation . . . corresponds to that of a continuous spectrum, and represents well the radiation of a hot body at a temperature near  $100^{\circ}$ . As for the rapid fall of the heat-radiation during an eclipse, Very notes that we can observe at this time only the radiation of the moon's surface and that there may be a superficial cooling, without cooling of the moon's mass, which would take place much more slowly."

"The problem is thus still an open one and may not be settled until after long and interesting laboratory experiment."—*Translation made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*



## TROUBLES OF A PHOTOTELEGRAPHER

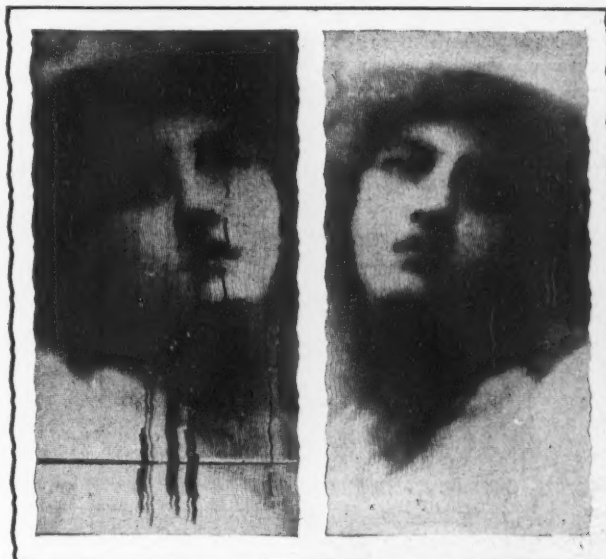
ONE of the newly perfected devices for the transmission of photographs by telegraph is now in daily use between Paris and London, connecting two newspaper offices in these cities. It works with exemplary faithfulness, we are told by a writer in *La Nature* (Paris). But just as we may have an occasional buzzing on the best telephone line, due to induction or some other cause, so there is an occasional fault in phototelegraphic transmission, resulting in the receipt of some remarkable pictures. Some of these freaks, as actually received in London from Paris by *The Daily Mirror*, are given in the article mentioned above and are reproduced herewith. Says the writer:

"These are singular illustrations, you will think, that accompany this article! Why has this graceful young girl whose delicate features you see here, such a horribly scarred face? What is the meaning of this strange lace pattern behind which diplomatically hides the physiognomy of M. Clemenceau? And these concentric bands that are superimposed on a person who seems to be Mulai-Hafid! These are specimens of very curious errors in transmission, selected from the phototelegrams now exchanged daily between our contemporaries *L'Illustration* of Paris and *The Daily Mirror* of London. These two journals have now a perfectly organized phototelegraphic service; the apparatus used is that of Korn which was described in *La Nature* several months ago. Every night, about 2 A.M., this new variety of news service uses the Paris-London telephone line, and there is thus sent from Paris to London, in the form of pictures, all the interesting news of the day.

"The Korn apparatus now works perfectly and transmits photographs excellently well, provided the line is in satisfactory condition. But it is not always so, as may be imagined by any one who has telephoned over a long-distance line. The accompanying photographs were sent from Paris to London in the way above indicated, and they show precisely what was the matter with the line at the moment of transmission.

"It takes twenty minutes to send such a picture, and it may be realized that this slowness often puts to the proof the patience of the operator. He sometimes deserts his charge, and the scars on the young girl's face in our photograph give a demonstration of his nervousness, for they mark short interruptions of communication, quickly reestablished, doubtless by order of the sender.

"It often happens, especially on lines of great length, that the currents sent over neighboring telegraphic lines influence the telephone conductor. . . . Every one knows the particularly disagreeable scraping sound that is thus produced in the telephone. If these electric effects take place at the time of transmission of a phototelegraphic image, they will evidently influence the receiving instrument, and the pictures will show the result. The lace-like effect that transforms the face of M. Clemenceau into a sort of Gobelin tapestry has no other cause than the influence of a telegraphic dispatch in the Morse alphabet, sent at the same moment



SCARRED FACE DUE TO INTERRUPTIONS IN LINE. SAME FACE CORRECTLY TRANSMITTED.

over a near-by line. On the visage of Mulai-Hafid we find, on the other hand, a dispatch sent with a Baudot apparatus, superposed on the photograph. In short, we have here the photographic reproduction of the scraping or buzzing sound in the telephone."—*Translation made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

## DANGEROUS DEFECTS IN OUR RAILWAY-TRACKS

THAT the present American method of fastening rails to ties by means of spikes is out of date, inefficient, and dangerous, because not adapted to modern size and speed of trains, is charged by Dr. W. C. Langman, of Cincinnati, in a letter to *The Scientific American* (New York, August 15). He writes:

"With the beginning of railroad construction in this country a very crude, cheap, and quick method was adopted and used by all the different roads to connect and fasten the rails to the wooden ties.

"This was a rough-cut wrought-iron spike about  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch square by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, and with the most of the head formed on one side to overlap and hold the rail in position. This spike answered the purpose in the experimental stages of railroad construction, when the rolling-stock was light and speed limited, the locomotives weighing from six to twenty tons, and the cars and other equipment in proportion; but now it seems as if the old-style spike has outlived its usefulness, and is being taxed beyond its capacity.

Little or no improvement has been made in spikes to fit the changed conditions. The constant increase in weight, size, and speed in all equipment, locomotives, and other rolling-stock has put the strain beyond the limit of safety, and what was formerly considered a good, safe, and cheap method of fastening for the rails I now consider a very weak, insecure, and expensive method, if you take into account the many and serious wrecks that are caused directly by the spreading of the rails.

"The principal reason why there are few wrecks in England and other foreign countries is because these countries have adopted better methods of rail-fastening. Over 50 per cent. of all wrecks are directly caused by this serious weakness in construction. . . .

"By adopting some good safe method that will hold the rails tight, it will not only eliminate the danger of the rails spreading and all wrecks caused by that serious defect, but it would also add from one-quarter to one-third to the life of the wooden tie, as the cut spikes so soon pull or work loose, and let the water into the timber, hastening decay



Mlle. LALOË.

MR. CLEMENCEAU.

MULAI HAFID.

On the first two photographs are superposed Morse telegrams; on the third a Baudot dispatch.

as well as letting the loose rail move and vibrate, thereby causing the tie to wear away under the rail. Some of the roads have been experimenting with the screw spikes that are used in England and France, with a view to using them extensively on their roads."

Early and radical change in methods of track-construction is also forecasted by an article in *Engineering News* (New York,



OAK LEAF—INDIRECT PRINT.

August 20), the writer of which notes that it has remained practically unaltered since the invention of the tee-rail, in 1830. Since the abandonment of the early cast-iron rails on stone blocks, or strap rails on wooden longitudinals, no further change has been made, and subsequent advance has been solely along the line of perfecting proportions and details. A narrow-gage light railway for logging has identically the same type of track, he notes, as a main-line railway carrying the heaviest and fastest traffic. Both have rolled-steel tee-rails laid on wooden cross-ties in a bed of ballast, bolted splice-bars to connect the butting ends of the rails, and driven spikes—simply large nails—to secure the rail to the ties. The heavy-traffic railway is distinguished only by heavier rails, larger ties, and better ballast. He goes on:

"An important point for consideration in new track design is the fact that the present construction is inherently weak in carrying the rails on individual supports which have no uniformity of bearing on the foundation. It is quite impossible, in practise, to obtain uniform bearing under all the 3,000 independent supports—the ties—in a mile of track, or even the 18 to 20 supports in a single rail-length. In theory, each tie is a rigid pier, carrying the rail as a continuous girder. In practise, the ties are supports of varying and unknown stability, yielding unequally under load. . . . And the yielding of the ties tends to increase as time goes on by the effect of the compression, settlement, or disintegration of the ballast which forms the foundation material."

Two methods, the writer goes on to say, have been suggested for improving these conditions, namely: (1) the use of very deep and stiff rails which will distribute the load over a greater length of track and will not be affected by a slight yielding of individual tie supports, and (2) the use of a continuous longitudinal support for the ties or rails. That we may look for any great change in the present type of construction, the writer does not believe, but he is certain that there will be improvement in the details of track of the present type, both in individual design and in the proportioning of the structure as a whole. He says:

"Railway-track as a unit, as a complete structure, designed for the purpose of carrying certain loads in the form of moving trains, has in the past received very little attention. Each part is considered separately, and not in relation to the other component parts of the structure.

"It is obvious that the track structure should be designed with a view to the loads which it is to carry, but it is safe to say that no actual track is thus designed. . . . For new lines, the weight of rails, size and spacing of ties, depth and character of ballast, etc., are very rarely adopted on any basis of motive-power equipment or traffic conditions. As concerns existing roads, it is a very evident fact that in many cases the track has not been strengthened or improved in due proportion to the increase in service imposed

upon it by the heavier loads, the higher speeds, and the denser traffic. Train equipment is adopted and train speeds are arranged without much consideration of the character of the track construction."

## VEGETABLE PHOTOGRAPHY

THE interesting discovery that leaves and other vegetable substances when placed in contact with a sensitive plate in darkness will give rise to a photographic image has already been noted in these columns. Exhaustive experiments by Dr. Russell, described in *Cosmos* (Paris, July 25) by Paul Combes, seem to show that this action is not due to radioactivity, as was naturally supposed at first, but to direct chemical action of some sort, possibly that of hydrogen peroxid. Says Mr. Combes:

"It is the same with all vegetable forms—stems, leaves, flowers, seeds, tubercles, bulbs, etc. This has been demonstrated in a series of experiments made by Mr. Russell on all kinds of vegetation, from the germinating seed up to the completely developed form, and even on the dried plant after its death.

"Certain of the most important vegetable substances, however, are exceptions to the rule, notably starch, cellulose, gum, sugar, pith, and pollen.

"Any kind of rapid photographic plate whatever may be used in these experiments, and the development is carried on in the ordinary way with the usual materials.

"That vegetable substances may act on the sensitive layer and give the best results, it is necessary in the first place that they should be properly dried; otherwise the moisture that they contain might alter the gelatin layer and destroy the image. The duration of contact may vary from a few minutes to eighteen hours or more. The action may be hastened by heating, but the temperature should not exceed 55° C. (131° F.); on the other hand, the contact under ordinary conditions should not be more than eighteen hours, because of risk of alteration in the layer of emulsion.

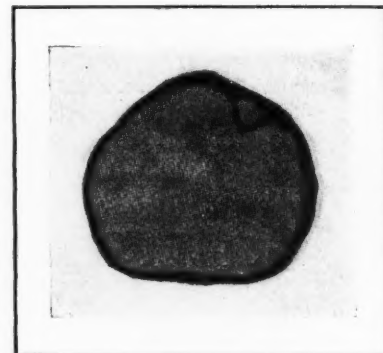
"The best method of drying vegetable substances (leaves, etc.) before placing them in contact with the sensitive plate is to put them between two sheets of very pure white blotting-paper and subject them to a pressure of 200 to 1,000 kilograms to the square meter [40 to 200 pounds per square foot].

"This pressure expels the sap, and the leaf may be placed in contact with the photographic plate after an instant's exposure to the air. To know whether pressure should be repeated, and whether it should be 20, 40, or 60 pounds, there is no better way than to compare the results of previous experiments, having reference to the thickness of the leaves, their degree of moisture, etc.

"This drying process has the advantage of giving a double image; that is to say, a direct image of the dried leaf and an indirect image by contact with the blotter impregnated with the sap, for the liquid . . . may itself react on the sensitive film. . . . When there is

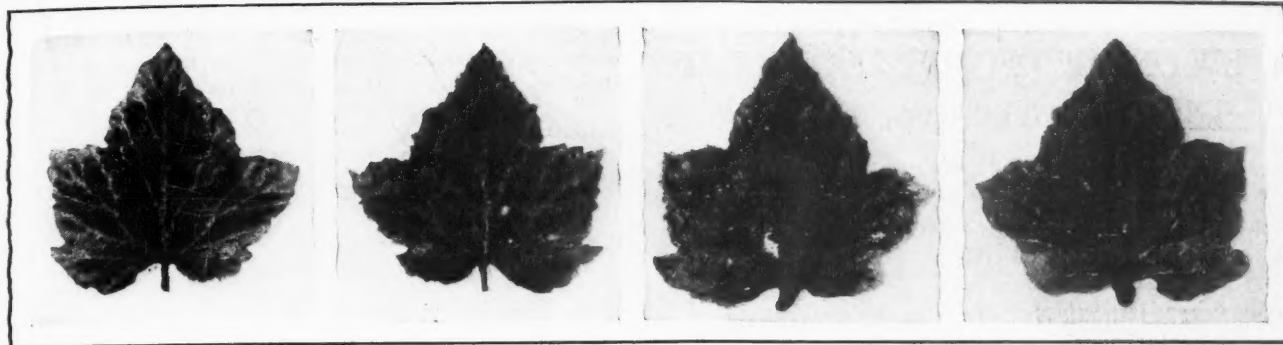
a great deal of sap the action is generally more intense. When a leaf is dried its action is considerably weakened, and may become absolutely null. The power of the leaf resides irregularly on different parts of the surface, but in very old dry leaves a certain amount of the active principle always remains."

Petals, the writer goes on to say, may be used in the same way as leaves, and the color of the petal makes no difference. The pistil of a flower is very active, but the pollen alone gives no results. The first leaves of a sprouting bean do not act on the plate, but when the plant has attained some degree of growth the leaves act as usual. The same is true of other seeds and nuts, such as the acorn, chestnut, pea, almond, barley, etc. In bulbs the plant germ is inactive, but the envelopes are partly active. When growth



CHESTNUT.





DIRECT PRINTS.

INDIRECT PRINTS.

begins, the germ becomes active also, but in different degrees with various plants. The activity of roots is also considerable.

In this way Russell has tried almost every form of vegetable tissue. What can be the cause of this photographic action and why should it vary so greatly from one kind of tissue and from one stage of growth to another? It is evident, the writer says, that radioactivity can have nothing to do with it, for the object must be in actual contact with the plate; even the thinnest sheet of glass or of mica arrests all action. Mr. Combes goes on:

"Russell advances the hypothesis that the active substance is peroxid of hydrogen. By dissolving one part of pure peroxid in one million parts of water, we may obtain a solution susceptible of acting on a photographic plate at the end of twenty-four hours, even when the sensitive layer is kept at a distance of 3 millimeters [ $\frac{1}{8}$  inch] from the surface of the liquid.

"Mr. Russell recalls the fact that Usher and Priestley, among many other observers, affirmed that formaldehyde and peroxid of hydrogen are the first products of the growth of plants. This would explain the action of growing plants on the photographic plate. On the other hand, the resins and turpentine are common in certain plants, and even in very small quantities these may give rise to hydrogen peroxid.

"This is the hypothesis that is now open to verification or disproof by other experimenters."—*Translation made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

## A DEFENSE OF THE COLORED SHIRT

THE cudgels in behalf of the colored shirt are taken up by *The Medical Times* (New York, August). It will be remembered that *The Lancet* recently pointed out that colored cuffs show dirt less easily than white, and that this conduces to the wearing of soiled linen—an unhygienic habit, certainly. This somewhat mild condemnation has been quoted with considerable exaggeration, and commented upon with various degrees of jocularity. Says the editor of the journal above named:

"*The Lancet* is taking a dangerous course; next, we fear it will object to the peek-a-boo waist—which would certainly be tantamount to journalistic suicide. Medical science, tho so potent in all other respects, can not cope with esthetics and the fashion. It never could. It has inveighed, for example, against such things as tight lacing and French heels until it has become black in the face and in imminent peril of apoplexy; but for all its pains it has got only a snap of the fingers in its face from fashion and its votaries.

"*The Lancet* objects to the colored shirt on the score of hygiene. This garment is made up of dyed linen, the dye being often injurious; and being colored it conceals dirt and perspiration longer than would the white garment; it is sure to be worn too long, thus greatly increasing the 'chances of picking up bacteria.' All these attributes of the colored shirt, believes *The Lancet*, are inimical to health and therefore to be reprobated. These objections to the colored shirt have raised a prodigious pother in journals of haberdashery and among comic writers at their wit's ends for something to write about in this silly season. One newspaper, for example, has become quite unduly heated about its cervical region—an in-

judicious state of mind in these midsummer days. It vehemently denies that there is any danger whatever in bars and stripes and spots and will not agree that a man is running the least risk even when he affects a solid blue.

"On the whole, we fear that medical journalism and especially our grandfatherly contemporary has been coming it a little too strong of late on matters of hygiene. Especially had the subject of bacteria best be given a little rest. A microscopic examination of the accumulations upon a hair-brush was recently set forth in a medical journal, and of course promptly quoted in a newspaper for the edification of its lay readers; the horrendous report cited that something like a dozen varieties of bacteria were found. Well, what of it! In our medical-college days our brilliant and enterprising professor in bacteriology investigated a scraping from the mouth of an obliging fellow student, a Texan. Twenty-six varieties of bacteria were found and duly tabulated. The list was most startling and formidable, beginning with *Bacillus prodigiosus*. Yet our Texan colleague, tho rather too odoriferous for agreeable juxtaposition, was then in excellent health; and we make no doubt that he has been and is in the full enjoyment of this condition up to this hour.

"The New York *Sun* ironically observes that everything we do, everything we eat, everything we wear, has been shown over and over again to be deadly. There is not a moment in our lives when we are free from danger. Our days have been elaborately examined and described from the hour of rising to bedtime; and it has been plainly shown that all our acts are virtually suicidal. We go to the bath, and instantly are confronted with the dreadful danger of the sponge; wherefore many timid souls have taken to loofahs and artificially constructed devices of rubber—all really unnecessary and none so comfortable as the sponge. Soap-water; these are dangerous, too, and full of mischief, yet people continue to use them in the most reckless way. They brush their hair with the deadly hair-brush, they put on their fatal shoes and so forth; and then they go down-stairs to a breakfast of poison. Even on the way down-stairs they run a frightful risk. We have no superintendent of stairs, and the builders are allowed to do as they please; the result is that the steps are of no fixt height, and if you are in a strange house, heaven help you! It is not the fault of *The Lancet*, which has strongly urged the standardization of staircases.

"We submit that a leaven of common sense is appropriate to hygiene as to all other things human. Besides, there is the general practitioner; if everything is going to be prevented, where will the poor man be?"

"The daily press, and even some technical journals," says *Machinery*, "have published a statement to the effect that a 'wireless' truck has been in operation in the yards of the Union Pacific's Omaha shops, this being the latest development in wireless transmission of electrical power. It was stated that this truck was used to haul a string of smaller trucks, loaded with material, from one point in the shops to another, the source of power being a wireless station in the center of the shop plant. It has been stated that the inventors of this wireless power transmission scheme are Dr. Frederick H. Millener and W. R. McKeen, Jr., the latter superintendent of motive power of the Union Pacific Railroad Co. We have been informed by Mr. McKeen, however, that the newspaper articles printed in regard to the operation of the 'wireless' truck at the Omaha shops have been considerably exaggerated. The facts in the case are that for experimental purposes a storage-battery truck has been equipped with necessary receiving wires, and wireless waves have been used in connection with a wireless-telegraph outfit for connecting and breaking the circuit between the batteries and the motor on the car, thereby starting and stopping the motor."

## A JEW ON THE DECADENCE OF JUDAISM

A REMARKABLE article arraigning the Hebrews of the present day appears in the *Idea Sionnista* (Modena), a journal founded in 1901 as the organ of the Zionists. According to Giuseppe Cammeo, the Hebrew writer of this essay, the modern Jew is ashamed of his religion and his nationality. He wishes that he had been born a Mussulman. He keeps himself aloof from the worship, the religious training and teaching, the philanthropic enterprises and institutions which distinguish the Hebrews. If he goes so far as to change his religious belief he does so from motives of self-interest and worldly advancement, not from conviction. In this article Giuseppe Cammeo declares:

"The greater number of our brethren in the faith (I speak ironically, for I find precious little brotherly feeling or faith in any of them) blush with the thought that they actually belong to the Hebrew religion, of which fact they ought on the contrary to boast. If they call themselves Hebrew it is merely on account of some scruple or other, or through superstition. Judaism itself has no interest for them, and they do nothing to promote Jewish religious teaching and education, or the Jewish charities. In the same way they keep their children aloof from other Hebrews and make themselves conspicuous on the streets and public highways, in the clubs, cafés, and theaters as associates of those who belong to another faith."

Their religious profession and their nationality, we are further informed, the Jews find a grievous and oppressive weight upon their life, and they try to clear themselves of what they look upon as a stigma by repudiating the temple and the synagogue. To quote further the words of Mr. Cammeo:

"The sufferings of this class of people are really enormous. The disgrace of their Hebrew origin lies like a heavy weight on their shoulders. How much more gladly would they have been born Turks! But to be born a Hebrew, the thing is unmentionable. What a sad destiny, what a calamity! Unhappy creatures! Filled with such prejudices against their race as are unknown even to their false and self-seeking friends, they would fain fling to the winds that appellation of Hebrew, but they do not know how to set about it. Abjuration of the faith is attended with many inconveniences. It involves a formal ceremony, it causes gossip, it is published in the religious papers, the motives for the act are discussed, and family feuds result from it. They therefore with a sore and grudging heart retain the name of Hebrew, but only the name. For all the acts of their life are studiously and deliberately ordered so that every one may be made aware that they do not associate with the Hebrew community and that they have no social intercourse whatever with their Hebrew fellow citizens. They never take part in the sacred services of the temple, and publicly boast that they have never set foot in the synagogue."

He cites the novel "I Moncaloo," by Enrico Castelnuovo, and confirms as true that novelist's description of "a Hebrew family," "who pay court to Christian dignitaries, to the clerical aristocracy, and who live fast and hold up their heads in other social circles than those of the Israelites." "Sometimes they embrace Christianity, filling up the cup of their degradation, for their conversion is not attended with conviction or any overpowering religious emotion."

He contrasts these "renegade Hebrews" with the Christians who are "religious, devout in public worship, and faithful to their clergy." He concludes by the following description of the modern Jewish woman:

"And the Hebrew woman—she who might be more serviceable than even the Hebrew man to the cause of Judaism—instead of proving herself, so she is foremost in destroying the religious sentiment of her race and in exhibiting an utter indifference to the Hebrew tradition. It is time that Jewish women should recognize their serious responsibility and should help the rabbis, the masters of religion, the few Jews who are religious, and the true and honest Zionists of our country, and in this way elevate the

status of Hebraism. But it is the woman, as truly described in Castelnuovo's novel, who misleads the man. It is the woman who with her caprices, with her irreligion, with her love for the Christian clergy, tears down the structure which our fathers erected with such wearisome toil, and extinguishes that sentiment of religion, that pride of nationality, which alone has made the Hebrews of the past happy and powerful."—*Translation made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

## SCIENCE AS AN ALLY OF RELIGION

ALTHO a large part of the Christian Church still views the doctrines and spirit of modern science with suspicion, if not with alarm, in many quarters the scientific spirit is beginning to be recognized as a strong ally of religion. This statement is enlarged upon editorially in *The Biblical World* (Chicago), which claims that "the assimilation of the scientific spirit in the realm of theology and religion unifies the spiritual life" and "furnishes religion with a new and powerful weapon for its own distinctive purposes." To quote further:

"Many devoted preachers of the Gospel not only discover in their scientific study illustrations of theological truth, but in the conviction which such study imparts to them, that neither truth nor life has anything to fear, but everything to gain, from the most thorough investigation and the most resolute thinking, find warrant and courage for such thinking and for courageous doing. The historical study of the Bible especially, which is the product of the scientific spirit working in the field of Biblical literature and history, long viewed as a foe to pure religion, has become for many a man a powerful incentive and a most efficient aid to preaching. . . .

"Very recently, a representative of the China Inland Mission, that most intensely evangelistic of all modern mission movements, has discovered that his most effective implement for religious work is a biological and electrical laboratory.

"By many this situation is still viewed with alarm. Yet in fact nothing is more calculated to give us hope and courage. For, in the first place, the assimilation of the scientific spirit in the realm of theology and religion unifies the spiritual life. A house divided against itself is ever in danger of collapse. To think scientifically in one chamber of the mind, and then to abandon this way of thinking, to bow the knee to authority the moment one crosses the threshold into another chamber, is to make one's mental life an internal contradiction, and one's mental progress hesitating and ineffective. It is only when, with full confidence that what is true is good, the thinker faces the facts in every realm with equal openness of mind and equally cordial welcome to truth new or old, that he really comes to the stature of intellectual manhood and marshals all his spiritual forces on the same side of the battle."

Returning to the claim that the scientific spirit is a new and powerful ally in the service of religion, the writer says:

"This is especially true in two realms, that of the schools and colleges at home, that of aggressive propaganda in non-Christian lands. The scientific spirit is more and more permeating the life of the colleges. No student can escape its influence. It is a matter of congratulation that it is so. But this makes it imperative that religion shall not set itself in antagonism to science; more than this, that it shall itself be permeated with the scientific spirit. Doing this, frankly accepting all that science proves, frankly adopting the scientific attitude in all its apologetic, it makes an appeal to the student mind which dogmatism can never make. And in non-Christian lands, on the other hand, nothing can so enforce the presentation of the message of Christianity as a genuinely scientific spirit. The laboratory experiment will attract attention and undermine superstition. But the handling of spiritual things with a reverence for truth that forbids either prejudiced denunciation of other men's religious convictions or the unsupported dogmatic assertion of one's own favorite type of Christian thought, in other words the spontaneous manifestation of that confidence in truth and regard for it which is the essence of the scientific spirit, will itself command confidence and win faith in one's message as



nothing else can do. Such a spirit is not only not inimical to religion; it is an essential element of the religion of Jesus. For the Jesus brought to men not primarily a principle of knowledge but of conduct, told them not only how to find truth, but what was the truth by which life was to be lived, thus doing for the world what science itself could not have done, yet his whole teaching is permeated by that sense for reality and that recognition of the right of truth to command, whatever the past may have affirmed, which is essentially the spirit of science."

## THE DANGER OF EXCESSIVE LITERALISM

THE Rev. Dr. Charles F. Aked, a clergyman of unquestioned orthodoxy, explains through the pages of one of the popular magazines how an extreme theory of "literal inspiration" applied to the Bible may prove a stumbling-block rather than a prop to Christianity. His frank words may prove of value to those who are ready to think the Bible invalidated by a single proven error. "So long as the man in the pulpit pretends that the Bible is infallible, just so long will the man on the cars politely ignore it," writes Dr. Aked in *Appleton's Magazine* for September; and he goes on to show how inevitably a certain amount of human error must have crept into the text during the long centuries of copying, translating, and retranslating. When we face the accepted facts of the case, he points out, "the infallibility of the English Bible becomes an impossible conception." Yet he finds the notion still loosely floating about the churches "that the Bible came down from heaven, cleanly printed, nicely bound in morocco, and gilt-edged, with a book-marker against that text which has been erroneously made to declare that every Scripture is inspired of God." The result of this theory that even in the English version every sentence, word, and punctuation-mark is "guaranteed by the Holy Ghost" is thus depicted:

"Men are told that the Bible is the infallible revelation of God to man, and that its statements concerning God and man are to be unhesitatingly accepted as made upon the authority of God. They turn to its pages and they find historical errors, arithmetical mistakes, inconsistencies, and manifold contradictions, and, what is far worse, they find that the most horrible crimes are committed by men who calmly plead in justification of their terrible misdeeds the imperturbable 'God said.' The heart and conscience of man indignantly rebels against the representations of the Most High given in some parts of the Bible. What happens? Why, such men declare—are now declaring, and will in constantly increasing numbers, and with constantly increasing force and boldness, declare—that they can have nothing to do with a book whose errors a child can discover, and whose revelation of God partakes at times of the nature of blasphemy against man. To such Bible-rejection has Bible-worship led! But the Bible remains the noblest monument of the religious genius of the race. It preserves the words of the most truly inspired men of bygone ages. It contains the record of the revelation of God. And it stands in unapproachable majesty, as a volume, the Book of books, superior to all other, and itself a literature not merely inspired, but inspiring the literature of the world."

Dr. Aked reminds us that the Revised Version of the English Bible "is based on the Authorized Version, which is an improved edition of the Bishops' Bible, which was a bad copy of Cranmer's Bible, which was based on Coverdale's translations of Dutch and Latin translations and Rogers's version of Tindall's Bible." But textual errors had ample opportunities to creep in long before the English version existed. "The earliest Hebrew copy of the Old Testament of undisputed date goes back only to the tenth century A.D.," we are told, altho the oldest Greek version, that in the Vatican, "dates from the first half of the fourth century." Considering the case of the Hebrew version, Dr. Aked writes:

"For a period, therefore, of not less than twelve hundred years, and perhaps of two thousand, copy had been succeeding copy, generation following generation in the world of books even as in

the human race. Twenty centuries of 'editions' had gone the way of all papyri, even as twenty centuries of human beings had gone the way of all flesh, and this parchment was heir of all those ages in the foremost files of—books. Had no copyist made one mistake in the course of twice a thousand years? As compensation for the late date of our Hebrew authorities can be set, it is true, the scrupulous fidelity with which the Hebrew amanuensis did his work, his reverence for the letter of the document on which he was engaged, and the consequent comparative purity and reliability of the text. But still—

"Consider this one fact: In a perfectly marvelous way the Jews contrived to preserve a literature without having a vowel in their language. The very thought of it staggers one! Let any man write out a column of to-day's newspaper, omitting every vowel as he writes, and then try to write out from the copy he has made a fair copy back again into English! He will find it a tedious and painful task; and he will find as well that there are many words which may mean one or two or three different things, according as he inserts one vowel for another. And he has to depend on memory, on his insight into probabilities of meaning, and upon his natural capacity for making sense of obscure 'copy,' for the exact word. Now let him imagine himself engaged not on a paltry column, but upon the entire Old Testament! And this was the position of Hebrew learning during the whole course of its history down to the sixth century after Christ. Then the Jews began to put in the vowel points which they had invented; but did they invariably put in the right vowel, or have they now and then given us a word or two which ought not to have been in the Bible at all?"

Again, turning to those books of the Bible which Protestantism groups as Apocryphal and which Roman Catholicism accepts, Mr. Aked continues:

"Men decided which books were 'Bible' and which were not. They had no miraculous power, no miraculous information, no miraculous commission. They were men of like passions with ourselves. Some were abler men than we are, and more learned. Some were neither so capable nor so well read. But they resolutely set themselves to consider problems, and they gave the best solution they could hit upon. By tact and insight and all the resources of literary criticism open to them, they sought, zealously and prayerfully, to define the place of the various books which claimed to belong to the Bible. But—

"It is palpably absurd to regard every question, disputed for twenty centuries, debated by innumerable councils, Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, adjusted time after time by the simple expedient of a majority vote, as so irrevocably fixt by the will of divine Omnipotence that to reopen any question, to reconsider any evidence upon which men of other ages took action, to travel over the ground trodden by them, with their own methods of inquiry and with prayer to the God they worshiped for the aid of the Spirit for which they begged, to do exactly what they did—form an independent and reverent judgment—is a crime so heinous that the bitterest words in the vocabulary of Christian hate must needs be spoken, and the deadliest weapons in the armory of religious persecution forged against the heretic and the sinner. The decisions come to may be right. They may be wrong. But they were the decisions of men, and as such are subject to criticism and revision equally with any other conclusions in the whole realm of intellectual life."

**HOW PROMOTERS USE THE CLERGY**—In warning its readers against "the ever-increasing flood of pseudo-investment literature that is becoming a curse in the country" *The World's Work* makes the remarkable statement that the two "favored classes" of people in the lists of possible investors are the clergy and maiden ladies. Of the part unwittingly played by the clergy in the game of the fraudulent promoter we read:

"There is hardly a 'fake' industrial concern promoted in this country that does not send out to a list of the clergy a set letter bought by the thousands from concerns that by long practise are experts in preparing such literature, setting forth the claims of that particular company to the consideration of investors 'of the most conservative and necessarily careful class, which you represent.'"

"I had never been able to figure out just what profit there could

be in this appeal by circular to the clergy, a class that usually has education, some knowledge of human nature, and very little money. But, since the Readers' Service of this magazine was established, I have come to understand, in some part, the reason why they are selected. Not only are the clergy themselves extremely likely to buy in small quantities, but the pitiful fact appears that, through the honest but misguided enthusiasm of preachers, the promoters reach hundreds of investors whom they could not otherwise reach. In small country towns and rural communities the clergyman is frequently a temporal as well as a spiritual guide, particularly to widows, orphans, and the helpless of both sexes."

## DEFEAT OF MODERNISM IN GERMANY

RECENTLY in the university town of Würzburg, in Bavaria, there was unveiled a monument erected to the memory of Prof. Hermann Schell, an event that the influential Munich *Allgemeine Zeitung* declares to be "the final act of a great tragedy." It was the public appeal for funds to erect this very monument, sent out about three years ago by three hundred and more leading Catholic savants and ecclesiastics of Germany, that started the great Modernistic controversy and was the direct cause of the publication of the papal encyclical and syllabus against this movement. It is now the conviction of leading journals that the battle of the Church authorities has been waged and won, and that Modernism as such is now practically dead in the fold of the Church. The *Allgemeine Zeitung* observes:

"The address of Professor Stölze, at the unveiling of the Schell monument, by its very caution shows that the Modernists, of whom he was the great chief, have lost courage and have given up the struggle. This brings to a conclusion one of the saddest chapters in modern church history. Those who undertook to fight for reform within Catholicism have become tired of their thankless task. How could a youthful, idealistic movement conquer, when struggling against such a mighty system of power as that which is incorporated in the Church of Rome? These are evil days for Reform Catholicism, and the hopes of victory on the part of its protagonists have disappeared. The Encyclical has had the effect of a hail-storm on a young and tender shoot, and those who entered upon the crusade have been compelled to suffer severely. What need has Rome of a great defender of the truth, if this defender turns his hand against the evils of this Church?"

Protestant church-journals particularly are convinced that Modernism is a thing of the past in the Church of Rome. Characteristic of the general sentiment prevailing in these circles are the statements of the *Reformation*, of Berlin, probably the most aggressive Protestant church-periodical issued in the Fatherland. Its ideas are in substance the following:

From the very outset too much was expected from the Modernistic agitation. It was not an evangelical movement after the manner of the Reformation of the sixteenth century, but was purely intellectual and in the spirit of modern scholarship. Among the Modernists there was no Luther and no Calvin. What they contended for was not the eradication of the false positions of the Church of Rome, but only for a reconciliation between the principles of modern independent research and the teachings of the Church—two things that could not be reconciled. The decay of the movement from inner weakness was accordingly only a question of time.

To this was added the wonderful power of the hierarchy of Rome, declared by the Protestant historian Ranke the most perfect specimen of an organization the world has ever seen. Nearly all the Catholic theological faculties in Germany, especially those of Munich, Würzburg, Bonn, and Münster, found in their midst advocates of the principles for which Schell stood; but all have been silenced. Archbishop Fischer simply forbade the students to attend the lectures of Professor Schörr in Bonn; in Munich the bold utterances of Professor Schnitzer were attacked by his own colleagues, especially Dr. Bardenhewer, and the Church authori-

ties succeeded in silencing the man; Professor Wahrmond, of Innsbruck, was granted a vacation of a year, and has been transferred to Prague and given a new chair, altho the disciplinary measures against him caused a strike of thirty thousand students in half a dozen universities. Even in Würzburg such special defenders of Schell as Professors Kiefl and Merkle are not as bold as they were before; and Professor Ehrhard, of Strasburg, really the ablest among them all, has publicly recanted, and an account of it is published in the *Internationale Wochenschrift* of Berlin. Indeed, there is evidently peace all along the line, even if the editor of the ultramontane *Bayrische Kurier* has been fined by the civil courts for having slandered the Modernist professors at Würzburg.

In other quarters, however, the conviction still obtains that the struggle is not yet over, that the present quiet is only the indication of a renewal of the contest in fiercer proportions. This is the trend of a lengthy article published in the *Christliche Welt*, of Marburg, by Adolf Dörrfuss, who has in substance this to say on the subject:

Recent publications by Merkle, Kiefl, and others, especially the biography of Schell by Kiefl, and his latest work, just issued, entitled "Die Stellung der Kirche zur Theologie von Hermann Schell," shows that the Modernists have indeed become more careful in their utterances, but that they have yielded nothing in principle. Kiefl maintains that the Pope in his encyclical has entirely misjudged the character of Modernism, and that Modernism in the sense in which in that document it has been condemned really never existed and could not exist in the Catholic Church. So careful, however, are Kiefl's utterances that even the extremist Prof. J. Stüfgen, who holds the chair of dogmatics in the most Catholic state university in Europe, that of Innsbruck, declares that the Index Congregation could find no cause to censure Kiefl on the basis of this work. And while it is a matter of considerable debate whether Schell himself ever retracted this offensive view, it is certain that with one or two exceptions the Modernists within the Roman-Catholic Church have not withdrawn their teachings. They have been silenced, but whether this is permanently or temporarily only a prophet or a prophet's son can tell.—*Translations made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

**HUMOR AS A FACTOR OF RIGHTEOUSNESS**—Sympathy, action, and humor, writes Mr. Alfred H. Lloyd in *The International Journal of Ethics* (Philadelphia), are three principal elements in that "real faith with which one should meet the brute facts of life." Anticipating some surprise over the claim that humor is a spiritual emotion and a positive factor in righteousness, Professor Lloyd goes on to explain that the humor of which he speaks is neither the humor of the "shallow optimist" nor that of "his equally shallow brother, the cynic." It is, rather, the humor which "gives relief in responsibility, not from it; cherishes frailty; feels the success of failure, and enjoys, not less honestly than keenly, the impartiality of nature." To quote further:

"Many will concede that this thing, humor, may ornament life; that it often affords relief and diversion; that it is not necessarily alien to serious living; but they may not be ready to regard it as belonging to the very substance, if I may so speak, of which faith and righteousness are made. And yet somehow life must laugh—deeply, quietly, reverently; and the more confident life is, the wider its sympathy and the more insistent its activity, the more surely and the more reverently it must laugh. Thus, not only do inactive philosophers call aloud for action and intellectually defy the will, but also such cause for humor confronts one at every turn. Is it less amusing that doctors very frequently fall seriously ill; that priests are themselves sinful creatures; or that babes have been known to speak wisely, while more than one sage has given utterance to unmitigated folly? Is it not, let me even say, one of the very deepest jests of human experience, at which, however tenderly, even the God must smile, that death is always associated with immortal life? In fact, all the great truths of religion and morality are only so many paradoxes. In face of such truths, then, can righteousness survive without a saving sense of humor?"



## THE NEW FICTION

WHEN we speak of the art of Thomas Hardy, of Conrad, of Hichens, of Mrs. Humphry Ward, we mean something so unlike the older art of prose fiction that "either it is not art at all or a wholly unprecedented art." Thus writes Mr. Henry Mills Alden in *Harper's Magazine* for September; and since, in his editorial capacity, he has watched the stream of current fiction during the past forty-five years, he may be supposed to speak with some authority. The fact that we live in "a new psychical era" is reflected, as Mr. Alden points out, not only in prose fiction, but in literature generally and in the plastic arts. He admits, indeed, that "it may perhaps be fairly claimed that in painting, the drama, and poetry certain features distinctive to modern prose were first foreshadowed—that the transformation in these arts, involving the divestiture of old fashions and the prophetic intimations of a psychical renaissance, was going on long before it was apparent in fiction"; and he adds that "this is undoubtedly true in the case of poetry." Thus "the relation of Wordsworth to all that we recognize as modernity was more direct and intimate than that of any novelist in his generation," while Browning has been "the chief inspirer of the great prose-writers of the last fifty years." In the presence of the old art, says Mr. Alden, "life was belittled, dwarfed by alien grandeurs, eclipsed by an unnatural radiance, overmastered by a remote tension," whereas to-day "the writer stands so near to life that his imagination takes the tension native to that life, along with its real feeling, shape, color, and rhythm." Mr. Alden's somewhat indirect delineation of the new fiction is thus supplemented by a commentator in the *New York Evening Post*, who finds its strongest claim to novelty in its "affinity with pragmatism":

"The new fiction takes life reverently as it is, loves it, and transfers it delicately to the page. It has no rule except that of absorption in the breathing-material with which it deals. We need hardly add that its chief literary virtue is very similar to the highest philosophic merit as pragmatism suggests it, namely, the possession of a mind thoroughly 'unstiffened.'"

"But this affinity with pragmatism is on the whole the best voucher of novelty the new fiction can present. Sensibility in itself would hardly justify astonishment except as a revival of an old tendency. Under this flag sailed much of the fiction of the eighteenth century, with the voluminous and tearful Richardson as admiral of the fleet. . . . Indeed, a skeptic might insist that the new school had done nothing more than substitute for the eighteenth-century 'man of feeling' the twentieth-century woman."

"But this would do scant justice to certain points of technical originality which Mr. Alden might fairly claim for his favorites. A sensibility that has been nurtured in impressionism has gained weapons of offense undreamed of nearly two hundred years ago. Where the old apostles of the emotions were simple, direct, and explicit, the new are complicated, allusive, and suggestive. A whole art of syncopation and suppression has been at the disposal of the new-style emotionalists. They know their Maupassant and Anatole France."

Not entirely pleased with the attributes of "the new fiction," the writer in *The Evening Post* goes on to say:

"In fact, there are many reasons for bracketing the new fiction with pragmatism. We are used to thinking of dilettanteism as a solitary vice indulged only in an ivory tower, but it is really much the same whether the withdrawal from the world is to one's own rare and guarded impressions or to a kind of hypnosis produced by the constant flux of life seen near at hand. Possibly, the apparently more egoistic dilettanteism is really the nobler, as implying a larger exercise of the will. In any case, the two are blood, or, shall we say, nerve relations."

"Now, the mark of dilettanteism is the hatred of general ideas, and the rejection of standards. Something very like this Mr. Alden commends in the new fiction, tho he would perhaps describe what will seem to many a lack as a positive quality, let us say, open-heartedness. But this derivation of the new fiction from im-

pressionism goes some way to explain its limitations. It is often fascinating, but its impact, as compared with that of its cruder eighteenth-century or more immediate forerunners, is slight. It seems in some fashion rather to command an art of titillation than of serious sword-play. 'What! its impact slight!' we hear a thousand voices, mostly treble, protest; 'it moves us deeply, far more profoundly than your musty classics.' Dear reader, these effects depend largely upon ourselves. The same causes that have produced the new fiction have caused a preparatory unstiffening of the minds of a new generation of readers, amid which a defiant remnant of old-fashioned readers still stands unabashed. For them we speak. These things, we repeat, are relative. A sponge may be regarded as a formidable missile and its impact as shattering when it is hurled against a curtain, but hardly when it is dashed against a wall."

## THE COMPLAINT AGAINST THE LITERARY AGENT

BOTH in this country and in England the author's agent is regarded in certain sections of the publishing trade as a character who might well be spared. The grievance of these publishers, as formulated by a writer in the *London Academy*, is this: "Authors are greedy enough, heaven knows; but an author egged on or 'represented' by an agent is little short of Wantley's Dragon, who ate houses and churches and presumably asked for more." For light on the other side of the case *The Academy* interviewed the head of a well-known London firm of literary agents, with results which it reports as follows:

"When we propounded to Mr. Pedrick the suggestion that the literary agent was within measurable distance of being abolished because the publishers so will it, he smiled the smile of the man who knows all about it. 'Does it not occur to you,' he said, 'that the very fact that some of the publishers are squealing against the literary agent proves that the agent has uses which, from the author's point of view, must be of the most valuable kind? Besides, apart from his usefulness, or want of usefulness, whether to author or publisher, the agent has so established himself in the camps of authorship that it is absolutely impossible to turn him out, no matter how keen or how sincere may be your desire so to do.' In reply to a straight question as to the over-rapacity of agents, Mr. Pedrick said that he did not believe there was anything in it. 'Take my own case,' he observed, 'I act, as you know, not only for large numbers of authors, but for authors of very various degrees of earning power. I know their value to the publishers, and the publishers know their value. It is sheer waste of time to talk ridiculously about money to the average publisher, and "bluff" is out of the question, even if one were disposed to such a doubtful resource. Looking back over years of experience I can not call to mind an instance where I have sold manuscripts to a publisher which were not worth the money demanded for them, or where I have demanded terms which were not honest, businesslike, and proper terms. Of course I am quite prepared to admit that the literary agent does as a rule obtain better terms for his author than the author would obtain for himself. But when you come to think of it, that is precisely one of the reasons why the author employs him, and it does not mean at all that the terms are unfair. The fact is that authors as a body, tho keen enough business men in a general way, are quite loose and easy-going on points of detail.'"

Turning to the usefulness of the agent to the publisher we read:

"Mr. Pedrick is of the opinion that the best publishers recognize that the agent is on the whole as useful to them as he is to his clients, and that an agent who in addition to being a good man of business possesses a certain amount of taste and a working acquaintance with the literature of the day can save a publisher a considerable amount of expense and trouble in the matter of his 'reading,' and very frequently brings a publisher into touch with remunerative authors with whom he might not otherwise have had an opportunity of dealing."

In conclusion Mr. Pedrick remarked that, while he had "doubled

and even quadrupled the prices and incomes of many an author," his relations with the best publishers are nevertheless "of the most cordial character."

## SPAIN'S VITALIZING INFLUENCE ON FRENCH PAINTING

THE primary lesson of the Paris Salon of 1908, according to Prof. Ernest E. Fenollosa, is that the seed of promise for the future of French painting derives from Spain. As Professor Fenollosa points out—writing in the *September Craftsman* (New York)—this gains a wider significance from the fact that "France has so long held the lead in what the Western World accepts as art

from its footing of broken tiles, powdering the bronze flesh and matted hair with blue. On the left a scornful señorita in dull orange mantilla turns against a rickety table to eye the dancers. Here is *genre* worthy of Velasquez if you like, but reinterpreted from a fresh contact with Spanish life. And Velasquez was court-painter to an effete line of kings; while such modern lovers of black eyes and wine-stained skin are court-painters to the kings of the gipsies, of the toreador's arena, and to the queens of the poultry-market. And the lines here are more frankly lines of motion than Velasquez's. Salas sets the whole composition tipping and rocking, like a cavalry charge of the old Japanese Tosas. And, like so much of recent work, the foreground figures are all cast into quick shade, leaving a rim of orange light only for the background of a distant hill. Yet these shadows are not heavy brown stains, like those of Rivera and the old dungeon painters, but an out-of-door device to intensify the clearness of the local

tones. Have we not all noticed how much more green the grass looks on a cloudy day? The pasty yellow glare of direct sunlight just kills out the proper colors of stuffs, whereas the diffused lights of sky and earth merely film them over with soft peachy reflections. And here all is flashed together as a kaleidoscope upon an eye which has no time to follow individual passages with separate focus. If this is Impressionism, it is also frank scientific common sense—a law as well of optics as esthetics; for nothing is more viciously untrue in a picture than a tempting of the eye to peck successively at visual kernels scattered in a hundred lines and planes."

Professor Fenollosa finds "a still greater revelation" in "The Mother-in-law," a large canvas by Carlos Vazquez, of Barcelona. Of this picture he writes:

"It is only a domestic group of four life-sized figures, whose local colors are saved by an indoor diffusion of light from the gray walls. A quarrel between two young married Spaniards has left the wife—whose yellow lace shawl covers an orange bolero jacket literally encrusted with gold spangles—still pouting on the right. In the center sulks her dandy husband, biting a cigaret, and viciously throwing his glossy velvet leg over a chair-arm. His claret-brown waistcoat is sewn with large silver coins, and a knotted scarlet kerchief escapes under his tilted black hat. His black breeks, lined with chocolate brown, are slashed at the side and buttoned with lumps of silver. His mother-in-law—who gives the picture its title—expostulates with him at the left with superb attitude, bending over forward toward the spectator, and then looking up backward into his surly face. She has braced for strength in setting her arms akimbo, and every muscle of her keen old face vibrates with vituperative argument. Behind her the old man looks on with masterly neutrality. Such is the skeleton of thought over which the artist has proceeded to weave one of the most solidly massed yet richly varied tissues of modern coloring. The scheme centers with incredible opulence upon the dominating figure of the old lady. Let us first point out that her skirt shows a glossy warm green, and that her right hand lies against it like the pulp of a purple fig. Hence the gamut starts off with the bag at her belt, a luminous opaque black, embroidered heavily in rusty red, yellow brown, and tarnished silver. Just over this bag falls her sleeve, of a greenish-yellow cream broken by clover-leaf patterns in quiet brown. But this is only a beginning; for now from sleeve to hand gather the lines of a dull orange bertha, half concealing in their folds small flower-knots of green and scarlet, and shading off at the edges into chocolate-brown and olive. This again leads the way to a splendid kerchief that throws forward from the bent head a ground of indigo blue starred with crimson roses. And over the forehead, with its escaping silver hair, this kerchief is knotted up into a ribbon of clear dark blue with little thin tassels of citron yellow. . . . Nothing has been left to happy accident. The picture glows in conscious depth, bathed in its own silvery tone, like a Velasquez. Only the one criticism falls due, that the orange of the wife's skirt is just too fierce to keep in key with the low-toned left. So, if we cut the wife out with hand raised before our right eye, the wonderful tone on the three left figures grows all the finer. Lastly, if we frame out by herself the



ANDALUSIAN PEASANT DANCE.

This painting by Tito Salas, a Spaniard born in Venezuela, is cited by Professor Fenollosa as among the pictures which give "the most pungent flavor of the year's work" at the Paris Salon.

education." Not only does the writer discover this Spanish influence in the canvases of such French exhibitors as Martin-Gauthier, Henri Zo, Gustave Pierre, and Rochegrosse, and in the work of the Pole Minskowsky, but he further finds "the most pungent flavor of the year's work" in the exhibits of the Spanish painters Salas, Vasquez, and Luloaga. Not, he explains, that contemporary Spanish artists are necessarily the greatest; but that they "are indeed simpler, more earnest in temper, and perhaps closer to great technic." And all this advantage, he declares, has its root far back in "Spain's supreme genius, Velasquez." Here, says Professor Fenollosa, are the steps of the transmission:

"Velasquez, Goya, Manet! And out of Manet has sprung the rich recent school of Degas, Renoir, Whistler, Sargent, and a hundred others. Widely modified in special features, this school flows to-day no longer a narrow and sickly stream, but has grown almost as wide as the whole realm of good painting."

"Is it too much," he asks, "to hope that the new Spanish school may soon expand into a genuine Mediterranean movement where the native genius of Greeks, Sicilians, Provençals, and Andalusians may yet achieve an outburst of color as characteristic and vital as has proved for the introspective North our Teutonic outburst in music?" Of an example of the work of this school which we herewith reproduce—the "Andalusian Peasant Dance," by Tito Salas, a Spaniard born in Venezuela—Professor Fenollosa fills in the color with the following vivid description:

"There on the right a woman, seen from the back, whirls violently the red-brown disks that pattern her silver-gray calico, crossing the diagonal line—made wavy with tossing arms—of the toothless old man with tilted head. The dust of the ancient court rises



upper half of the grand old lady, it is hardly too much to declare that she stands beside a Rembrandt portrait, one of the most powerful and brilliant figures in all art."

## WHERE THE HIGH SCHOOL FAILS

"OUR educational methods and institutions in America are confounded," asserts the editor of the *New York Independent*, who quotes no less an authority than President David Starr Jordan to the effect that we are wasting money, energy, and intellect in trying to run our colleges as universities, and in managing our universities as if they were only overgrown colleges. But even more serious, according to a paper by William McAndrew in *The World's Work* for September, is the case of the high schools, which, in turn, are trying to be little colleges. The high school, he declares, is dominated by the erroneous idea "that its purposes should reflect the aims of the university; that it should exclude the unfit; that maintaining high standards is better than educating the dull and the ordinary; that its business is to train the leaders and not the rank and file; that it is especially concerned with scholarship." The result, says Mr. McAndrew, is that "an almost universal discontent" with our high-school education is "simmering in the newspapers, in the civic clubs, and among the laymen on boards of education."

Those "aristocratic ideas," which the high school has borrowed from the college to the hurt of our secondary education, were legally nullified, asserts the writer, "when the courts established the right of the communities to tax all the people to maintain secondary education." The fire of criticism at present directed against our high-school procedure, he claims, "is more continuous and violent than in the seventies, when the courts were called upon to decide whether high-school instruction was practical and necessary for the public at large." A Supreme-Court decision at that time established the democratic function of such schools. Yet the substance of the present criticism is the same as that of Samuel Adams's time. In answer to the question "What are the reasons?" he says:

"For one thing, there is the college influence. That is aristocratic. 'The function of the college is to produce a small and highly trained patriciate—an aristocracy, if you will—men of high breeding and supreme attainments who will rise above the level of the commonplace,' declares your college professor. The college man, he says, should be one of a special class. To be a college man is to be a distinct type.

"As the American high school is historically a college adjunct and not a superstructure built on the common schools, its spirit is naturally this aristocratic college spirit. The teachers are rarely secured by promotion from the elementary schools; they are college students fresh from the university atmosphere. The course of study is not a continuation of the common-school course; it comes down like a stalactite from above. The questions of high-school management have not been, 'What are the most useful ways in which these young people can spend their school time?' but, 'What do the college examinations require?'"

Turning more specifically to other points of criticism already enumerated, Mr. McAndrew writes:

"The president of Harvard says that 'we propose to uphold the standard and to uplift the secondary school by our admission examinations'; on the next day the principal of Phillips Academy, Andover, says that 'the boy of average ability finds himself taxed beyond his power.' For forty years, at least, we have been following this absurd practise of the unattainable standard. I was never able to reach it in high school or college. I have asked hundreds of college men about their experience and never met one

who said that he had been given work that he could do well. We set the mark so high that we don't expect it to be hit, but we will accept 60 per cent. of what we ask. This practise of discounting complete work is universal in colleges and in high schools. If we were not so accustomed to it, we would regard it as the device of a diseased mind. It is a system of educating men and women not to desire the best. The best is not required. We teach them to be satisfied with indifferent success.

"Another favorite theory of our aristocracy is that we high-school people train the leaders and should therefore be permitted to take money from all the taxpayers for the education of a few. . . . But is it true that we make leaders? Why is it that Beecher was rated by the leadership experts thirty-fourth in his class, while number one became an inconsequential barber? Why is it that Linnaeus's



THE MOTHER-IN-LAW,  
By Carlos Vazquez, of Barcelona, in the Salon of 1908. This picture, according to Professor Fenollosa, affords evidence that the Spanish painters are "simpler, more earnest in temper, and perhaps closer to great technic" than other European artists.

teacher said that he was unfit; Darwin's, that he was dull; Seward's, that he was stupid; Swift's, that he had no promise; Wordsworth's, that he was a disappointment; Sheridan's, that he was a defective; Humboldt's, that he lacked ordinary intelligence; Heine's, that he was a dunce; Hegel's, that he was only middling; Byron's, that he belonged at the tail; Huxley's, that he was notably deficient; Schiller's, that he showed no proficiency; Lowell's, that he was negligent; Goldsmith's, that he could not learn; Wagner's, that he was a mental sloven; Goethe's, that he was unsatisfactory; Emerson's, that he was hopeless; Pasteur's, that he was only average; Thackeray's, that he was undistinguished; Gladstone's, that he had no unusual ability; Watt's, that he lacked the qualities of success; Ibsen's, that he belonged in the lowest grade; Curie's, that he was too stupid for school? Mr. E. J. Swift, in his book on 'Mind in the Making,' gives thirty pages of eminent leaders who were dubbed failures by their teachers.

"I do not understand that it has been proven that those who excel in our present high-school courses become leaders in any larger proportion than those who do not. . . .

"Another piece of cant we high-school people utter is prattle about a deep, a broad, and an accurate scholarship—as if we had it and our students were getting it from the college-made curriculum on which they are fed. This is one of our most sacred ideas.

"Our faith in this idea is as dear as a good man's devotion to his mother. But if you put by your emotion and make a search for this scholarship, where is it? There was some in the teaching given James Freeman Clarke and the children with him, but the standard high-school curriculum to-day forbids the exercise of diversity, novelty, or enthusiasm. Without enthusiasm how are you going to have depth or breadth of scholarship? Only a man who is a product of our education would call by the name of scholarship the paradigms, grammatical rules, and lifeless drill

that constitute so much of high-school courses now. To call it scholarship is cant of the most fragrant stripe."

In the following paragraphs Mr. McAndrew looks for a remedy for the conditions described:

"These schools should be like the rivers and the roads, not maintained for private yachts and automobiles exclusively, but even for oarsmen and pedestrians. All the children who have finished the elementary schools should determine the studies and the management of the high schools. They should not be ignored in favor of a traditional, medieval system. A living person, not a curriculum, should be the determining factor. Judge Draper believes that American high-school procedure is 'wasting the lives of the children' and that 'there is a sad lack of definite aim and purpose about it all, and that our educational plans do not rationally meet our conditions.' If those were the words of an enemy of higher education they would be serious; but as the deliberate utterance of an ex-superintendent, a recent university president, and the present head of the educational system of New York State, including six hundred and sixty-five public high schools, they are singularly momentous and solemn. And they are not unique. They merely express more directly and forcibly what is current public opinion.

"It would seem that we are again at a period when public opinion feels about us as Governor Adams felt regarding the academies a hundred years ago: that 'our learning, instruction, and social feelings belong to the few.'

"The high school should abandon its idea of being an 'institution' with traditions, cults, doctrines, and holier-than-thou proclamations; it should get down to a humble endeavor to serve all children. It should cease maintaining that its mental food, cut and dried by experts of unproved fitness for life here and now, is the only proper nourishment for growing boys and girls. It should study the real world about us and try to reproduce the best of it under the best conditions in the class-room."

## GREEK AS A WORLD LANGUAGE

FRANK STOCKTON had a character in his "Squirrel Inn" who was engaged in the laudable enterprise of translating the writings of Charles Dickens into Greek, so they would not perish and be forgotten in the mutations of the English tongue. Greek is a fixt and changeless language, and in the vocabulary of Homer and Theocritus the sayings of *Sam Weller* and *Mr. Pickwick* were to be preserved forever. The recent Esperanto Conference at Chautauqua—the first ever held in America—prompts an editorial writer in *The Medical Record* (New York, August 15) to advocate similarly the speedy adoption of Greek as a universal language. He does not believe that any artificially constructed tongue will fill the bill, but thinks that some existing language should be chosen, preferably modern Greek, for reasons that we quote below from his article. He writes:

"There is and can be no dispute as to the desirability of a world language supplementary to the national idiom of each country; the only question is as to the choice of this common tongue.

"There is hardly a language spoken by civilized people on the face of the earth, not to mention the one hundred and fifty or more artificial languages that have been invented during the past two centuries, that has not been proposed at one time or another for adoption as this supplementary speech. Latin once held this place, and five hundred years ago educated men could communicate through this medium freely and intelligibly, orally or in writing, with their fellows in any part of Western Europe. Later French, the *lingua franca*, became the universal language of polite society and diplomacy, but this, too, has lost its supremacy, and Babel reigns once more. The claim is frequently made, by those whose vernacular it is, that English is making rapid headway as an international speech, but this is true to the extent only that it is the native tongue of a constantly increasing number of the inhabitants of the earth. A business man in England, or North America, or Australia may address his foreign correspondents in English, but nine times out of ten they will reply in German, or French, or Spanish; and the scientist who would keep himself

informed of progress in his special branch must have a reading knowledge at least of two or three languages other than his own.

"There is no living language that would not serve the purpose of international communication if universally taught, the question of relative ease or difficulty of acquirement being entirely negligible if the language were learned in infancy at the same time and in the same way as the mother tongue, and its use were continued in the school curriculum in the teaching of history and of physics, chemistry, and the other scientific branches. The problem is then to select from among the living tongues the one best adapted to the purpose, irrespective of its difficulty or ease of acquisition by adult students—which is more apparent than real if the study be approached in the proper way—or of the number of persons now speaking it.

"The choice should be of a living language. A return to Latin is still advocated by a few enthusiasts. But Latin is dead—as dead as the Cæsar who glorified himself in it. In spite of the efforts of those who would modernize it and adapt it to the needs of expression of the twentieth-century man of science or of business, the tongue is too stiff for modern use. Moreover, it lacks the authority which only every-day use, by those who possess it as their own, and a living modern literature can give it. The choice should be also of a real language."

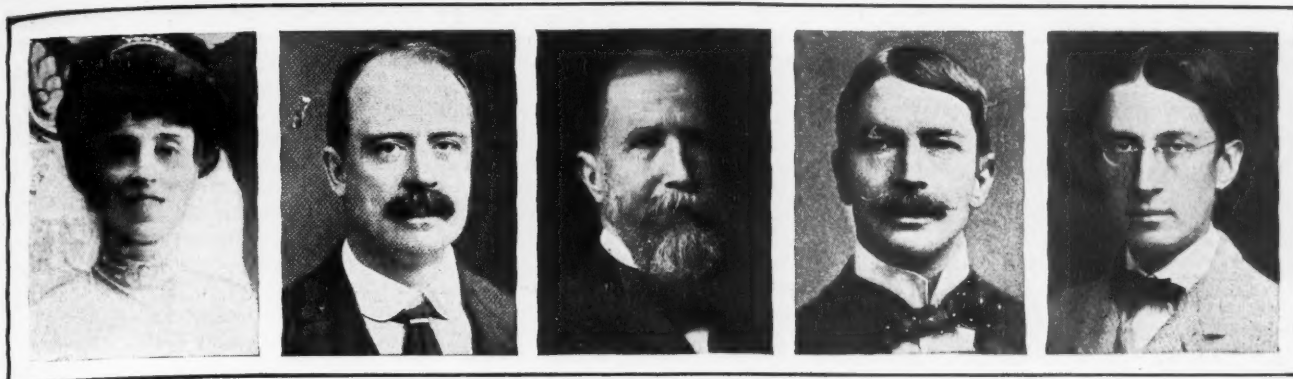
The objection of lack of authority applies, the writer asserts, with equal, if not greater, force to an artificial language. Latin at least has a literature, but Esperanto has none, save a few translations and ephemeral articles. It has, moreover, what he regards as the fatal defect of being "a mere Frankenstein creation, related to nothing else in the world and void of an informing soul." A wonderful creation he admits it to be, admirable as a linguistic *tour de force*, logical in formation and comparatively easy for adults to read. He goes on to say:

"There are, nevertheless, many defects in its construction, and already a quarrel is hatching between the would-be reformers and the 'stand-patters' in Esperantism. This is the rock on which Volapük split at a time when it seemed to be almost on the point of acceptance by the business world, and until Esperanto has weathered this storm, if it does, its adoption as a world language does not seem advisable or likely.

"The choice should be of a language, if such there be, that is already universal in its root-forms and a part of the speech of the entire civilized world. There is such a language—the Greek. Not only is Greek the basis of the vocabulary of every science, it is constantly on the tongue of the business man, the society woman, even the school child—sadly twisted and shamefully maltreated oftentimes, even by the man of scientific education, but still Greek. The root is there and ready to send up its branches and blossom forth into the flower of a beautiful speech if only cultivated. . . . It is the second language, when not the first, of all the dwellers on the Eastern Mediterranean shores from the Piræus all the way to Alexandria, and it answers perfectly the needs of these eminently commercial peoples. This is not the Greek of Homer, of course, nor even that of the New Testament, but the Greek of the cultivated peoples of Athens and Constantinople and Smyrna. It differs but little from the so-called ancient Greek—no more than, if as much as, the English of Chaucer or Spenser does from the English of to-day; but what difference there is, is all on the side of simplicity. It is less difficult to learn, even for an adult, than French or German, and if it were taught in all the elementary schools of the world as a living tongue, not as an exercise for translation merely, the coming generation would use it as fluently and as naturally as it would the national speech.

"The suggestion to adopt modern Greek as a second tongue for all the nations of the civilized world is not novel; it was made by Voltaire even at a time when his own French was the language of the Prussian court and was almost an international tongue. Before and since his day other men of practical experience in the work of the world have made the same suggestion, which is, indeed, one worthy of the consideration of those who recognize the necessity of a common medium of communication and who are tempted to turn to Esperanto in ignorance of anything better. But even Esperanto, or Volapük, or Chinese would be better than nothing, for the impediment to the diffusion of knowledge and the crippling of business which the lack of a world language causes are very real and lamentable."





MADAME DE LA PASTURE.

SYDNEY GEORGE FISHER.

SAMUEL MACAULEY JACKSON.

EDGAR JEPSON.

HAROLD MACGRATH.

## A GUIDE TO THE NEW BOOKS

**Allaben, Frank.** John Watts de Peyster. 16mo. 2 vols., pp. 323-337. New York: Frank Allaben Genealogical Co. \$2.50.

While ten chapters of this work (eighty-seven pages) are devoted to ancestry and genealogical tables, this fact enhances the value of the work, as it illustrates how seven races, derived from some of the best blood of Europe, were blended in those who founded New York, and were represented in the person of Gen. de Peyster.

John Watts de Peyster derived his name from an old Flemish family. Driven forth by religious persecution, the De Peysters settled in Holland, whence they crossed to the New World and for seven generations held an eminent position in New York. Gen. de Peyster was born in 1821, and the most attractive part of the present book is his autobiography which he dictated to an amanuensis in his fifty-fifth year. But he wrote many things besides his life. He was to some extent a poet and a dramatist, but his principal claim to notice lies in his work of military criticism, military history and biography. His experience and reading made him an authority on such matters. After having been a brigadier-general of New York militia, he visited Europe as Military Agent of his State, and was subsequently created major-general in the Regular Army for his services before and during the Civil War.

Probably the autobiography of Gen. de Peyster will be the most eagerly read portion of this work as far as regards the general reader. The historian will revel in the array of authentic documents, dates, and references with which these volumes are so richly equipped. But the General's school days, his pony, the "bread-and-water table" of punishment to which idle scholars were condemned, his early travels in France, will appeal to the minds of all. We see revealed the old aristocratic life of New York when No. 3 Broadway, his birth-place, was in a wealthy residential quarter. We regret that we have no space for further references to a work which will prove of high interest to many countrymen of Gen. de Peyster, especially if they are New-Yorkers.

**Austen, Jane.** *Pride and Prejudice: A Novel.* With General Introduction by R. Brimley Johnson. 2 vols. Illustrated. 12mo, pp. 253-250. New York: Duffield & Co. \$2.50 net.

**Bennet, Robert Ames.** *Into the Primitive.* Illustrated. 12mo, pp. 318. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co. \$1.50.

**Benson, Arthur Christopher.** *The Schoolmaster: A Commentary upon the Aims and Methods of an*

Assistant-master in a Public School. 12mo, pp. 169. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.25 net.

**Bindloss, Harold.** *Delilah of the Snows.* 12mo, pp. 339. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Co.

**Booth, Edward C.** *The Post-Girl.* Frontispiece. 12mo, pp. 469. New York: The Century Co. \$1.50.

**Boswell-Stone, W. G.,** edited by. *Much Ado about Nothing.* Introduction and Notes by F. W. Clarke, M.A. 12mo, pp. xiv-78. New York: Duffield & Co. \$1.

**Both, Armand.** *The Half-Smart Set.* Illustrated. 12mo, pp. 311. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Co.

**Breasted, James Henry.** *A History of the Ancient Egyptians.* Maps. 12mo, pp. 469. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.25 net.

**Carr, Clark E.** *My Day and Generation.* 8vo, pp. 452. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

Colonel Carr tells us in his preface that he had been "many times urged to put into permanent and enduring form accounts of some of his own life experiences and of the characteristics of certain of those with whom he has been associated." This is ample justification for the production of this checkered ollapodrida which illustrates many subjects from an Icelandic saga (of which we are given a photographic reproduction, transliteration, and translation into English) to "Our Corn Kitchen at the Paris Exposition of 1900." The work comprizes twenty-eight short articles

and there are sixty-three illustrations, forty-nine of them being portraits. These portraits represent faces familiar to the eye of the public and range from that of Andrew Jackson to that of Carl Schurz. Many of the other pictures are reproductions of prints, altho photographs might easily have been procurable.

Colonel Carr has given us a really delightful and ever-valuable article in "Journey to California in 1869 with Governor Yates." It is happily the longest article in the volume, covering over ninety pages, and has all the charm which belongs to a simple and sincere narrative of personal experience.

**Casson, Herbert N.** *The Romance of the Reaper.* Illustrated. 12mo, pp. 184. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co. \$1 net.

**De la Pasture, Mrs. Henry.** *The Grey Knight.* 12mo, pp. 321. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. \$1.50.

**Di Coppo, Fra Giovanni.** *The Legend of the Holy Fina, Virgin of Santo Gimignano.* Now first translated from the Trecento Italian, with introduction and notes by M. Mansfield. Illustrated. 16mo, pp. xiv-127. New York: Duffield & Co. \$2.

**Dresser, Horatio W.** *The Philosophy of the Spirit: A Study of the Spiritual Nature of Man and the Presence of God.* With a Supplementary Essay on the Logic of Hegel. 8vo, pp. xiv-545. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$2.50 net.

**Duras, Victor Hugo.** *Universal Peace.* Frontispiece. 8vo, pp. 185. New York: Broadway Pub. Co. \$2.

**Edwards, John Harrington.** *God and Music.* 12mo, pp. 319. New York: The Baker & Taylor Co.

**Eggleston, George Cary.** *The Warrens of Virginia: A Novel.* Founded on the Play of Wm. C. de Mille. Illustrated. 12mo, pp. 344. New York: G. W. Dillingham Co.

**Ferguson, W. B. M. Collenstein.** Frontispiece. 12mo, pp. 349. New York: D. Appleton & Co. \$1.50.

**Fisher, Sydney George.** *The Struggle for American Independence.* Two volumes. Illustrated. 8vo. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. \$4 net.

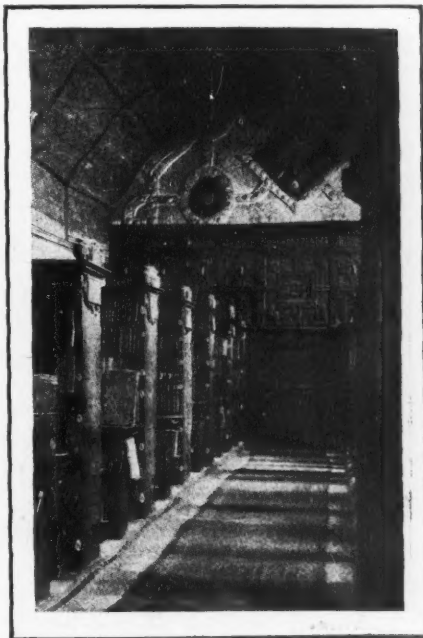
**Fletcher, Horace.** *Optimism: A Real Remedy.* 12mo, pp. 78. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

**Frank, Sidgwick,** compiled by. *The Sources and Analogues of "A Midsummer-Night's Dream."* 16mo, pp. 196. New York: Duffield & Co. \$1.

**Franklin, Fabian.** *People and Problems: A Collection of Addresses and Editorials.* 12mo, pp. vii-344. New York: Henry Holt & Co. \$1.50 net.

**Freeman, Mary E. Wilkins.** *The Shoulders of Atlas.* 8vo, pp. 294. Harper & Bros. \$1.50.

The author of the "New England Nun" has retained her skill in writing the New-England dialect and portraying New-England domestic life and character. But on the present occasion she has spiced her book with elements quite at variance with the sweet austerity of many of her works. The title of the novel is irrelevant, and only explained, as by a rhetorical figure dragged in head and shoulder, in the closing sentence. Has the genius of our



MERTON COLLEGE LIBRARY, OXFORD.

"Probably the oldest example of the medieval library in England," newly built in 1377-8, but the book-cases and benches "date from the library's earliest days." At Merton all the books were formerly chained.

Mary E. Wilkins of former days run dry, that she should forsake her well-beaten path and attempt to lighten up her narrative by evil things, not to say the morbid pathology of nymphomania? The book is disappointing, because it is disjointed and repellent.

**Gardner**, William Amory. In Greece with the Classics. Frontispiece. 12mo, pp. 301. Boston: Little, Brown & Co.

**Gould**, George M. Righthandedness and Left-handedness, with Chapters Treating of the Writing Posture, the Rule of the Road, etc. Illustrated. 12mo, pp. 210. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.25 net.

**Henry**, O. The Voice of the City. Further Stories of the Four Million. 12mo, pp. 243. New York: The McClure Co.

**Higginson**, Thomas Wentworth. Things Worth While. 16mo, pp. 73. New York: B. W. Huebsch. 50 cents net.

**Jepson**, Edgar. Tangled Wedlock. 12mo. New York: McClure Co. \$1.50.

**Johnson**, Allen. Stephen A. Douglas. 8vo, pp. 503. New York: The Macmillan Company. \$2.50 net.

The battles of the Lincoln period have over and over again been described. The background to that great struggle of secession is only gradually being unfolded and the outline of many striking figures little by little revealed. Mr. Johnson's work, which he styles a study in American politics, is a valuable contribution to this revelation. The two great epochs in the life of Stephen A. Douglas were also epochs in the history of the American Republic. The Kansas-Nebraska act, which established "squatter sovereignty," and left each State to legislate for itself on slavery, roused to blood heat the passions of the Abolitionists. It was the work of Douglas and was really the train laid which led to the cannon-shot on Fort Sumter. The debate between Douglas and Abraham Lincoln in 1854 is almost as famous as that between Webster and Hayne. The current of American history was changed by both of these great debates; and Webster and, in a greater sense, Lincoln, rose to be arbiters of their country's destiny. That Douglas was defeated by the great Abolitionists, that the result of that debate was eventually the emancipation of the negro by the

Federal Government, can not be looked upon as any reflection upon Douglas, who was one of the political giants of his day, and maintained a position which is quite consistent with the political theory not only of the last, but of many people of the present generation, a theory which was only to be judged by the arbitrament of war. The present volume is a careful and animated account of a vehement and stormy career.

**Kipling**, Rudyard. Departmental Ditties and Ballads and Barrack Room Ballads. 12mo, pp. 217. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co.

**Klein**, Abbe Felix. An American Student in France. Illustrated. 12mo, pp. 340. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

**Lewis**, Alfred Henry. Wolfville Folks. Frontispiece. 12mo, pp. 321. New York: D. Appleton & Co. \$1.50.

**Lowell**, A. Laurence. The Government of England. 8vo, pp.: Vol. i. 570. Vol. ii. 563. New York: Macmillan Co. \$4 net.

The reading of the two volumes with the above title will give the student a fuller, more comprehensive, and clearer idea of what the English Government is, and what English political life hinges upon, than any course of ordinary research can possibly yield. Professor Lowell has done his work conscientiously and completely, in so far as he has outstript all his predecessors in the same field, and has brought his history and comment up to the present day. From the vastness of the material and number of topics with which this work deals it must of course be looked upon as more or less a summary; but it is a summary as lucid and interesting as Mr. James Bryce's "American Commonwealth." The American author has dealt with the English Monarchy with just as much sympathy and knowledge as the English author exhibited in discussing the American Republic.

In his first volume Professor Lowell gives his interpretation of the position taken in the Government by the Cabinet. He states its relation to the Crown, as the nomination of its president, to the Commons, and to the Lords. This seems to us to be the clearest and fullest account of a most intricate institution which has so far

appeared in so brief a form, and even well-informed Englishmen will be led to take this work as a book of reference in the matter of the English administration. In the second volume we find a most interesting history of English parties. A party government in England is comparatively recent in origin. The parties were the natural product of parliamentary government. Ministers felt the necessity of standing together, of forming or formulating a common political theory as against what John Cam Hobhouse styled "his Majesty's opposition." Professor Lowell shows that English parties are limited in number to two by the necessities of the case. When the Home-Rulers were at their zenith of influence in Parliament Mr. Parnell admitted that if he could hold his party together until they had a majority in the House he still could do nothing in a parliamentary sense until one or other of the two great parties recognized and indorsed his views.

Perhaps one of the most valuable sections of this second volume is found in the eight or nine chapters which the author devotes to the somewhat thorny subject of "Local Government." That local affairs in England are largely under the control of a central board is one of the great peculiarities of the British administration. The first step toward this condition of things was made by the Poor Law of 1834. In 1847 the Poor Law Commission, which had to secure the carrying out the provisions made for the relief of paupers, was changed to a Poor Law Board with a Minister and parliamentary representative at its head. The powers of this Board were enlarged in 1871, and now it is commissioned to supervise all local administrations and is known as the Local Government Board. A strict watch is kept, and reports made by deputies of this board in every town of England, and the minutest details as to the management of a workhouse in Liverpool or Brighton are prescribed by the central board in London. In the opinion of Professor



EDWARD HYDE, FIRST EARL OF CLARENDON; AND THE CLARENDON PRESS AT OXFORD, WHICH WAS NAMED AFTER HIM.

This printing-house, the successor in 1713 of the Sheldonian, was built chiefly from the profits accruing to the press from the sale of Clarendon's "History of the Rebellion." "Owing to this peculiar connection," says Falconer Madan in his "Brief Account of the University Press of Oxford," "the University is still allowed to hold the perpetual copyright of Clarendon's good work."



Lowell this has been a beneficial arrangement. There have been some drawbacks, however. While the central board compels the local board to make improvements, this has often led to the increase of loans, and many municipalities have been plunged deep into debt. The Professor does not, however, undertake exactly to balance the profit and loss of the system.

It is impossible here to follow the author through his chapters on education, in which he traces the various school systems of England from the Middle Ages up to the present day. The education question as far as regards free schools is scarcely settled up to this day, but the public schools, as Eton, Harrow, Winchester, and others are called, still remain aristocratic seminaries representing the Established Church of England as far as their teaching and system of worship go. On the subject of imperial federation, of which we have heard so much recently, Professor Lowell has given us his views in a very definite manner. He points out that there are many apparently insurmountable obstacles to the practicability of electing colonials to seats in the British Parliament, but leaves the problem to be ultimately solved by the English statesmen, who have shown themselves so far able to overcome even more formidable imperial difficulties.

The reader will acknowledge a debt of gratitude to the author of this really remarkable work, not only for its wealth of learning and boldness of reasoning, but for its topical arrangement and the scholarly simplicity of its style. It is impossible to read these pages without realizing more clearly than ever that the British Government is a living organism, confined in its faculties to some extent by stiff precedent and tradition, but ever changing according to the call of circumstances, expanding itself, multiplying its departments of activity, and improving its methods with a certain strange freedom and spontaneity such as no written constitution has power to check. The Parliament of to-day is, as Professor Lowell points out, neither the Parliament of the House of Hanover nor of the House of Stuart. It is not even the Parliament of the early Victorian age, and this spirit of newness, change, adaptation as evidences of vitality is that which seems to prevail through every administrative department of the British Monarchy.

**Macgrath, Harold.** *The Lure of the Mask.* Illustrated. 12mo, pp. 401. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Co.

**Maynard, Samuel T.** *The Small Country Place.* Illustrated. 12mo, pp. 320. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.50 net.

**Schaff-Herzog.** *The New Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge*, based on the third edition of the *Realencyklopädie* founded by Herzog, edited by Hauck. Prepared under the supervision of Samuel Macauley Jackson, D.D., LL.D., Editor-in-Chief. Complete in twelve volumes large 8vo. Vol. I., Aachen-Basilians. New York: Funk & Wagnalls Co. Price per vol. in cloth, \$5.

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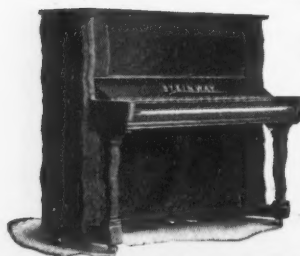
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is to be included in the new American work, increasing the size of the latter from four to twelve volumes. Naturally much condensation has attended the translation of the German articles. But in many cases these translations and condensations were made under the eye of the German authors themselves. Where this responsibility has rested with the American editors, the name of the German author has been placed at the close of the article in parentheses. The fine store of German scholarship thus inherited in the American work is evident at a glance.

The whole work has been supervised by an editor-in-chief, two associate editors, and eight department editors. The articles have been contributed by over six hundred scholars and specialists. Many important articles, as appears from the first volume, were furnished new by American scholars. The general aim of the work is wholly distinct, to provide an Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge, embracing Biblical, Historical, Doctrinal, and Practical Theology; and Biblical and Ecclesiastical Biography from the earliest day to the present time. This means a wise and diligent garnering from no less a field than the whole world.

The Biographical feature has been carefully developed and its material distributed in proper cyclopedic order through the body of the work. Experience here has been of no little help. And this promise alone, of having distributed through the store of general religious knowledge a treasury of religious biography, living as well as ancient, should bring to the project multitudes of friends.

Another general feature is the Bibliographies which are in evidence on every page and betoken the magnanimity of the undertaking, making it plain that contributors as well as editors are laboring generously to make the work truly a cyclopedia. For a sample, in the bibliographies appended to the articles on Assyria and Babylonia, there is a teeming and stirring field. Those two lists open before one a store of wealth.

One of the most notable improvements seen in this new edition is the treatment given to the great geographical divisions of the earth, as Africa, Armenia, Assyria, Austria, Babylonia. In the treatment of Africa, by Henry Otis Dwight, coeditor of the "Encyclopedia of Missions," there is an account of the continent as a whole, of its races, its opening by outside races during its different historical periods, of the slave-trade, the late explorations, the native religions, the existing political divisions, with accounts of present religious conditions and missions. This is supplemented by an elaborate and carefully classified bibliography. The article on Armenia, prepared upon the same historical plan, tho naturally within narrower limits, by Gelzer, Dwight, and E. M. Bliss, is full of information touching the thrilling, pathetic, and long-drawn history of this unique land.

Similar comments might be made about the articles on O.-T. and N.-T.

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Apocrypha by Schürer and Hofman, which are finely adapted to the general purposes of the scholar. In the article on Architecture one finds a carefully drawn, broad sketch of ecclesiastical architecture in its historical development—with its literature classified by countries, the writer is Barr Ferree.

One of the most valuable articles in the first volume is one on the Baptists, written by Prof. A. H. Newman, one of the department editors, and covering nearly twenty-five pages, and in which the deeply checkered variety in the history and present status and activity of this division of Christendom are frankly, sympathetically, and effectively set forth.

Of the work in Biblical lines, particularly in Biblical Introduction, it should first be said that in all this field, in its present stage, real certainty is limited, and conjecture is widely and variously in vogue, so that any comprehensive statement, such as a real cyclopedia seeks to present, is bound to be confused. Indeed, it is impossible to see how this confusion can be either ignored or dispelled. The conduct of this department has been very generously planned, the scholarship of the German work being carefully conserved, and the same being supplemented by the two department editors of the American work—Professors J. F. McCurdy of Toronto, and H. S. Nash of Cambridge, Mass. By this method there has been constant effort put forth after fair statement as to varying views. However, in this the first volume, reaching from Aachen to Basilians, no single major Biblical article appears.

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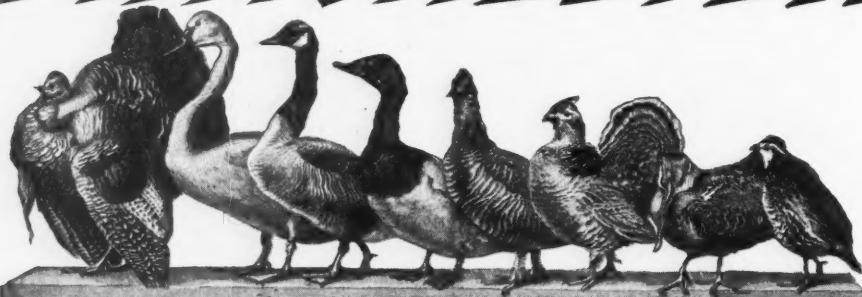
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### The Song-maker.

By SARA TEASDALE.

I made a hundred little songs  
That told the joy and pain of love,  
And sang them blithely, tho' I knew  
No whit thereof.

I was a weaver deaf and blind;  
A miracle was wrought for me.  
But I have lost my skill to weave  
Since I can see.

For while I sang—ah, swift and strange!  
Love passed and smote me on the brow;  
And I who made so many songs,  
Am silent now.

—Harper's Magazine (September).

### In No Strange Land.

"The Kingdom of God is within you."

By FRANCIS THOMPSON.

O world invisible, we view thee;  
O world intangible, we touch thee;  
O world unknowable, we know thee;  
Inapprehensible, we clutch thee!

Does the fish soar to find the ocean,  
The eagle plunge to find the air,  
That we ask of the stars in motion  
If they have rumor of thee there?

Not where the wheeling systems darken,  
And our benumbed conceiving soars;  
The drift of pinions, would we harken,  
Beats at our own clay-shuttered doors.

The angels keep their ancient places—  
Turn but a stone, and start a wing!  
'Tis ye, 'tis your estranged faces,  
That miss the many-splendored thing.

But (when so sad thou canst not sadder)  
Cry; and upon thy so sore loss  
Shall shine the traffic of Jacob's ladder  
Pitched betwixt Heaven and Charing Cross.

Yea, in the night, my Soul, my daughter,  
Cry, clinging Heaven by the hems;  
And lo, Christ walking on the water,  
Not of Genesareth, but Thames!

—The Athenæum.

### Wales.

By MILDRED HOWELLS.

O little country of my heart,  
Lying so far beyond the sea,  
Far from my land of birth apart,  
And yet so near in thought to me!

Before I saw you with my eyes  
My spirit knew your valleys fair,  
Watered by turf-brown streams that rise  
Upon your mountains wild and bare.

Your mountains beautiful and wild  
Where still the fairy people dwell,  
While I was but a little child  
In mystic dreams I knew them well.

For of your race a banished part  
Pines like a prisoned bird in me,  
O little country of my heart,  
Lying so far beyond the sea!

—Harper's Magazine (September).

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## MORE OR LESS PUNGENT

**Cause for Thanks.**—"Here's a piece 'bout a rich man what can't sleep in de night."

"Dat's kaze his conscience hu'ts him."

"My! Thank de Lawd I ain't no rich man!"—  
*Atlanta Constitution.*

**Evidence to Fit.**—When John J. Barrett was new at the San-Francisco bar two Chinamen entered his office and retained him to help prosecute "one velly bad man, Jim Hing."

Having locked the retainer in the safe, Mr. Barrett inquired what Jim Hing had done.

"Him velly bad man," the spokesman replied.

"Jim Hing kill he wife. He live same alleyway, 'closs the steeet. Me—my blother—both look out window 'closs alleyway, see Jim Hing stabbee wife. She die light away. He lun. You hang Jim Hing?"

"Certainly," said Mr. Barrett. "But you must tell the police just what you saw."

"Jim Hing kill wife—" they began, when the lawyer interrupted:

"Yes, yes, I know; but when you first saw Jim was the knife up high or down low?"

"Hoong yeh goyamen zoon fah goon quomong gey yoola—" the Chinamen began jabbering and singing at each other, when Mr. Barrett again interrupted:

"Answer me truthfully. Stop consulting. Was the knife up high or down low?"

The elder Chinaman looked puzzled. Restraining the impulse to consult his brother again, he turned a guileless stare on Mr. Barrett.

"Which you think best?" he replied.—*Harper's Weekly.*

## TRIED TO FORCE IT

**Thought System Would Soon Tolerate Coffee.**

A Boston lady tried to convince herself that she could get used to coffee and finally found it was the stronger. She writes:

"When a child, being delicate and nervous, I was not allowed coffee. But since reaching womanhood I began its use, and as the habit grew on me, I frequently endeavored to break myself of it, because of its evident bad effects.

"With me the most noticeable effect of drinking coffee was palpitation of the heart. This was at times truly alarming, and my face would flush uncomfortably and maintain its vivid hue for some time.

"I argued that my system would soon accustom itself to coffee and continued to use it, although I had a suspicion that it was affecting my eyesight, also. The kidneys early showed effects of coffee, as I found by leaving it off for a few days, when the trouble abated.

"Finally a friend called my attention to Postum. At first I did not like it, but when made right—boiled 15 minutes until dark and rich—I soon found Postum was just what I wanted. No flushing of the face, no palpitation, no discomfort or inconvenience after drinking it.

"Of course all this was not felt in a week or two weeks, but within that time I can truthfully say a marked difference had taken place and a great deal of my nervousness had vanished.

"At present time my health is excellent due to a continued use of Postum, with a general observance of proper hygiene. Of nothing am I more convinced than that if I had continued drinking coffee, I should be today little less than a nervous wreck, and possibly blind."

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To the average man we commend the \$1.00 brush.

Berset Shaving Cream Soap softens the beard instantly. Doesn't dry, doesn't smart. 25 cents a tube at all dealers' or direct by mail. Send 2c stamp for sample tube containing one month's supply.

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**A. F. A. King, A. M., M. D.,** Prof. of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children in the Medical Department of Columbia University, Washington, D. C., and in the University of Vermont; Ex-President Washington Obstetrical and Gynecological Society; Fellow of the British Gynecological and of the American Gynecological Societies, etc., etc., in the eighth edition of his Manual of Obstetrics recommends **BUFFALO LITHIA WATER** as a diuretic in diseases of the Kidney and Bladder.

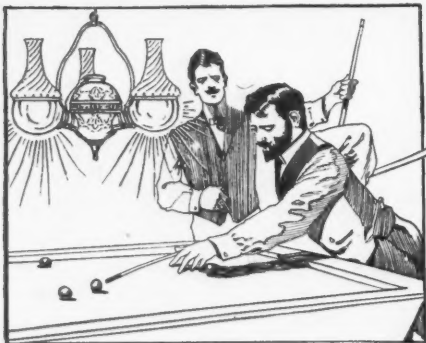
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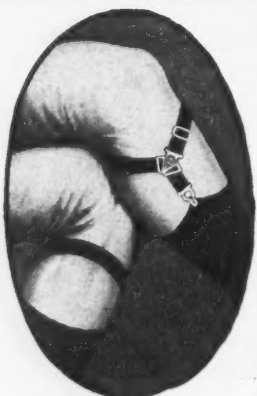
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**A Disadvantage.**—In Southampton, Mass., not long ago a prominent man of the place was commending the improvements made by a certain grouchy citizen with respect to his dwelling.

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The pessimist, who was at the time standing in front of the premises, looked up with glowering brow at the newly decorated exterior.

"Well," he admitted, gloomily, "it does look a bit better; but we'll have to wash the windows twice as much now to dress up to it."—*Harper's Magazine.*

**A Non-Conductor.**—A teacher in an East-Side school was trying to explain some of the simpler phenomena of electricity, and at the close of her little lecture she asked sweetly, "Now can any of you children give me the name of some non-conductor and tell us about it in a few words so that we can all understand?"

A sharp-eyed street urchin jumped up and down in his seat, waving his grimy paw frantically. "I kin, teacher!" he exclaimed. "Billy Hogan's old man is one. They was a spotter on his car seen him knock down a fare. Old Hogan's a non-conductor ever since."—*Lippincott's.*

**An Epidemic.**—Every employee of the Bank of England is required to sign his name in a book on his arrival in the morning, and if late, must give the reason therefor. The chief cause of tardiness is usually fog, and the first man to arrive writes "fog" opposite his name, and those who follow write "ditto." The other day, however, the first late man gave as the reason, "wife had twins," and twenty other late men mechanically signed "ditto" underneath.—*The Argonaut.*

**The Ragged Edge.**—Peripatetic Peter went for two days with almost nothing to eat before he struck a farmhouse near Newark, N. J., where a reluctant housewife at last handed him out a big, square sandwich of hard ham and stale bread. A little while later a companion found him writhing in pain upon a convenient hayrick.

"What's de trouble, Pete?" he inquired.  
"De hardest luck ever," was Pete's reply. "I've just had a square meal—an' de corners are scratchin' me!"—*Saturday Evening Post.*

**A Definite Date.**—During the money stringency lately a certain real-estate man, having nothing else for his clerk to do, sent him out to collect some rent that was overdue.

The clerk, being of Swedish nationality, had their peculiar twang in his speech.

Returning from his trip, the Swede seemed very jubilant.

The proprietor, noticing his smile, said: "Well, what luck did you have?" and the clerk answered, "Purty good."

"Well, did anybody pay you?"

"Yaas, Smith he pay, and Yones he say he pay in January."

"Are you sure Jones said he would pay in January? He never before has made any such promises."

"Vell, I tank so. He say it bane a dam col' day when you get dot money, and I tank dat bane in January."—*Scrap Book.*

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**Not Just What He Expected.**—As the brisk philanthropist thrust her fare into the cab-driver's hand she saw that he was wet and apparently cold after the half-hour of pouring rain. "Do you ever take anything when you get soaked through?" she asked.

"Yes, ma'am," said the cabman, with humility "I generally do."

"Wait here in the vestibule," commanded the philanthropist. She inserted her house key in the lock, opened the door and vanished, to reappear a moment later.

"Here," she said, putting a small envelop in the man's outstretched hand. "These are two-grain quinin pills, you take two of them now and two more in half an hour."—*Youth's Companion.*

**Home, Sweet Home.**—"Yes, suh," said Brother Dickey, "my race what wants to live in Illinois kin go dar, how an' w'en dey likes, but ez fur me, I'll stay whar I is—'mongst de folks I raise an' bo'n wid, an' ef I is lynched, please God, I'll be lynched by my fr'en!"—*Atlanta Constitution.*

### CURRENT EVENTS

#### Foreign.

August 22.—News is received in Paris of the decisive defeat of Abdul Aziz, recognized Sultan of Morocco, by his brother, Mulai Hafid.

August 23.—Fire in the Stamboul quarter of Constantinople destroys fifteen hundred houses.

August 24.—Baron Speck von Sternburg, the German Ambassador to the United States, dies at Heidelberg.

August 26.—The American battle-ship fleet leaves Sydney for Melbourne, Australia.

A formidable revolution is in progress in three provinces of Persia.

#### Domestic.

##### GENERAL.

August 21.—The Government files a petition for a retrial of the Standard-Oil case, attacking the reversal of Judge Landis by Judge Grosscup.

August 22.—Secretary Wright announces that the President has approved his recommendations dismissing two of the West-Point cadet-hazers, suspending the other six for one year.

August 23.—President Roosevelt makes public and gives his approval of the report of a special commission which finds the work on the Panama Canal to be progressing rapidly.

George W. Fitzgerald, formerly a teller in the United States Treasury at Chicago, is arrested, charged with the theft of \$173,000 from that institution.

August 24.—Richard L. Hand, to whom Governor Hughes referred the charges against District-Attorney Jerome, reports that not one is sustained and all are disproved by the evidence.

Seven cruisers, with seven destroyers, sail from San Francisco on a test cruise to Hawaii and Samoa.

August 26.—President Roosevelt makes a speech at the presentation of a public library at Jordanville, N. Y.

August 27.—William F. Vilas, former United States Senator, and Postmaster-General and Secretary of the Interior in Cleveland's Cabinet, dies in Madison, Wis.

#### Political.

August 21.—W. J. Bryan delivers a speech on the tariff at Des Moines, Ia.

August 22.—W. H. Taft announces that if elected he will call a special session of Congress for tariff revision soon after March 4.

August 24.—Chairman Hitchcock holds a conference with the New-England Republican party-leaders at Boston.

August 25.—President Roosevelt and Governor Magoon, of Cuba, decide that the Cuban Presidential and Congressional elections shall be held November 14.

J. W. Kern accepts the Democratic nomination for Vice-President at Indianapolis; W. J. Bryan is present, and makes a speech against the trusts.

August 26.—W. H. Taft expresses disapproval of Mr. Bryan's plan for the Federal guaranty of national-bank deposits.

August 27.—The National Negro-American League urges the negroes to support Bryan.

W. J. Bryan speaks at Topeka, Kan., in advocacy of his plan for the Federal guaranty of national-bank deposits.

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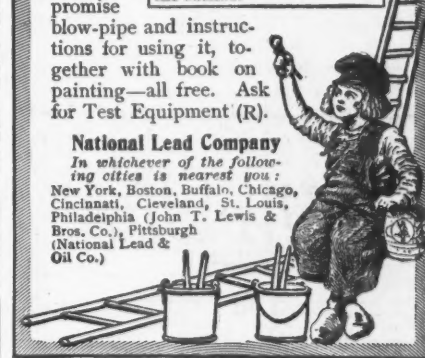
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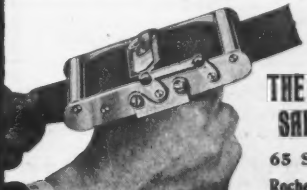
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











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## THE LEXICOGRAPHER'S EASY CHAIR

In this column, to decide questions concerning the correct use of words, the Funk & Wagnall's Standard Dictionary is consulted as arbiter.

**The Lexicographer does not answer anonymous communications.**

"T. R. J., Richville, N. Y.—'Rev. John Doe assumes the pastorate of Rock Island Church.' Is the word 'assumes' properly and correctly used in the above sentence?"

It is, for to *assume* is "to take to oneself formally; undertake (an office or duty)." *Pastorate* is defined as "the office, state, or jurisdiction of a pastor; the duration of a pastoral charge." Charlotte M. Yonge in "Cameos" (IV, xi, p. 124) wrote: "They insisted on his assuming the pastorate. . . ."

"L. F., N. Y. C.—'Will you kindly advise me whether the phrase 'Many useful informations' is correct? Kindly explain whether 'informations' is the plural of 'information.'"

The word "informations" was formerly used, but is now obsolescent. It was once used as the plural of "information" in the sense of "items of information" used to-day, as, Swift says (*Drapier's Letters*), "All the assistance I had were some informations from an eminent person;" but this is scarcely good English. The word *informations* was used in 1386 by Chaucer in the *Tale of Melibeus*; 1565, by Golding, in *Cæsar*; 1613, by Shakespeare, in *Henry VIII*; 1748, by Chesterfield, in his *Letters*.

"C. K. C., New York City.—'Kindly advise me which is correct, *guarantor* or *guarantor*. Also, the correct pronunciation of *acclimated*.'"

The word is spelled *guarantor*. *Acclimated* is pronounced ac-clī-ma-ted (i as in *isle*; ma as in *mate*).

"A. B. C., Tarboro, N. C.—'Is it possible to use 'o'er' in the sense of 'overly,' as in the line 'Surely the way is not o'er rough,' etc?'"

The word "over," often contracted to "o'er" in poetry, has as one of its meanings excessively, which is improperly used as an adverb, being really the preposition used in compounds, as *over-anxious*. The word "overly" is archaic or colloquial as an adjective or an adverb. As the former it means "negligent, inattentive, excessive"; as the latter, "to an excessive degree; carelessly." "Overly rough" would mean "rough to an excessive degree," but the use would be an archaism.

"R. H. M., Medina, N. Y.—'What is the etymology of the word 'helix'?"

"Helix" is derived from the Greek *helix* and denotes "anything spiral," from *helisso*, "to turn around."

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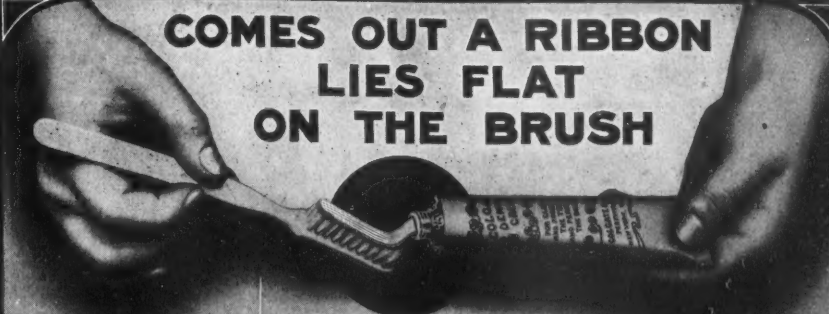
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